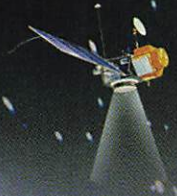
Movin' On

A GUIDE TO LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

2000 EDITION



HOT JOBS WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

FASCINATION WITH ANIMATION

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

TECHNOLOGY & AGRICULTURE

Compliments of

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

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FINANCING THE JOURNEY

Through scholarships, grants, loans and the Hope Scholarship Tax Credit, there are plenty of opportunities to help finance your degree.

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Movin'On

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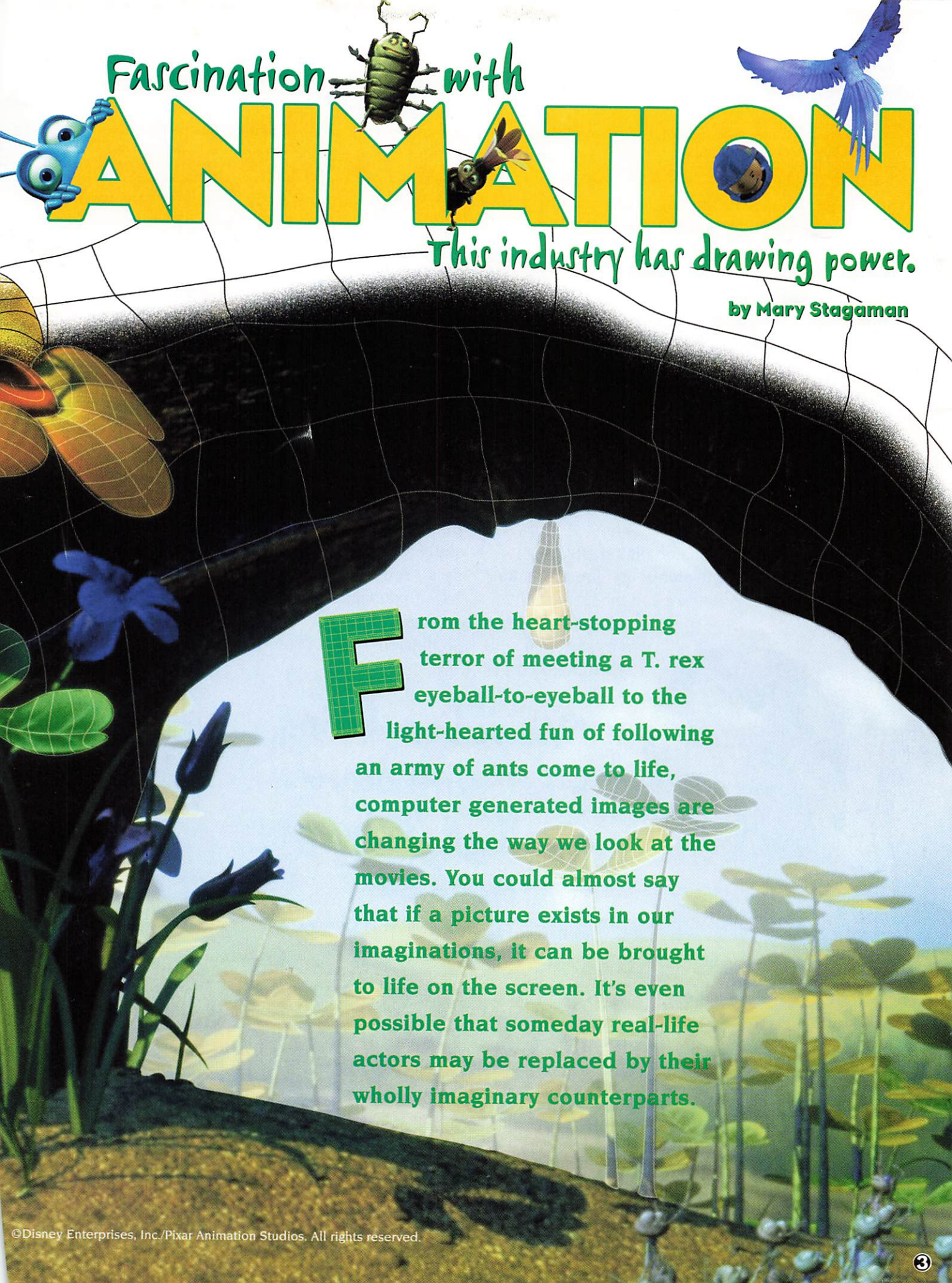
Fascination with ANIMATION

This industry has drawing power.

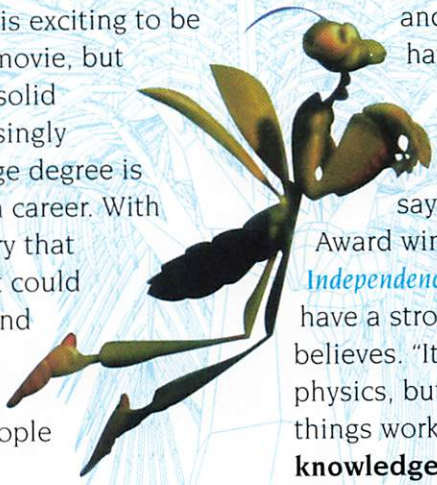
by Mary Stagaman



From the heart-stopping terror of meeting a T. rex eyeball-to-eyeball to the light-hearted fun of following an army of ants come to life, computer generated images are changing the way we look at the movies. You could almost say that if a picture exists in our imaginations, it can be brought to life on the screen. It's even possible that someday real-life actors may be replaced by their wholly imaginary counterparts.

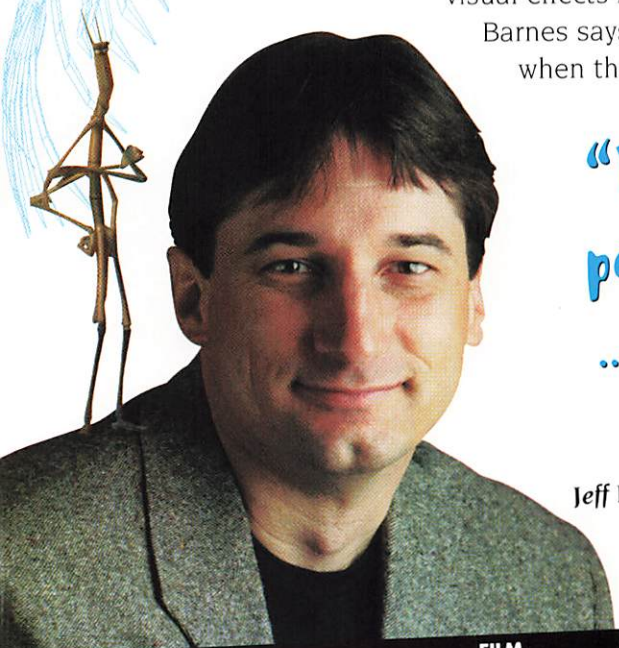
©Disney Enterprises, Inc./Pixar Animation Studios. All rights reserved.

Computer animation is everywhere: in television commercials, in music videos, on World Wide Web sites. But it's nowhere more impressive than in the motion picture industry and being a computer animator sounds like a pretty cool, high-paying job. It is exciting to be involved in the production of a movie, but it's also hard work and requires solid skills because the field is increasingly competitive. Experts say a college degree is essential for getting started on a career. With it, you can expect to earn a salary that may start at around $24,000, but could climb to $100,000 if your skills and work are exceptional.



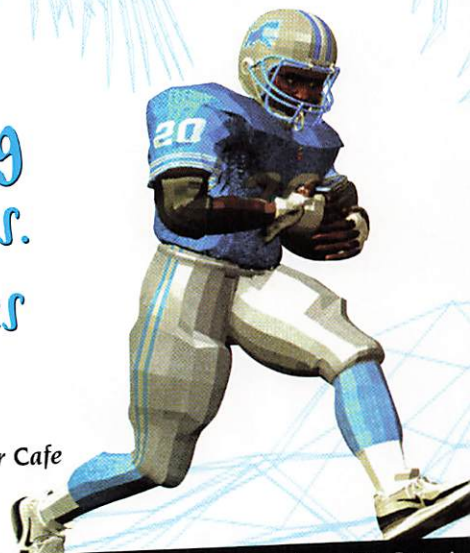
"Lately we've been hiring people with degrees," says Jeff Barnes, executive producer at Computer Cafe, a California 3-D animation and digital effects company that created the smoke and fire elements for the opening of *Armageddon* and more than 50 visual effects for *Flubber*. Barnes says that when there's a job open and a lot of people applying, college graduates stand out. "They've reached some benchmark, they've learned about some things they wouldn't have learned otherwise, and they've learned social skills," he says. Those social skills are important because of the intensity of the work and the long hours spent on projects; you have to be able to work on a team.

"It's not just those who take certain classes or become computer literate," says Ray Feeney, a four-time Academy Award winner who has worked on films like *Titanic*, *Independence Day*, and *Prince of Egypt*. "You have to have a strong understanding of all things visual" he believes. "It's not necessarily having a degree in physics, but it's having a basic understanding of how things work." **You also need a strong traditional knowledge of mathematics, art, color and photography, and you need great problem-solving skills.** While working on a motion picture, Feeney says, "You're faced with an issue and a problem. You have to deduce what's going on and come up with a creative solution, work within a budget, and create an illusion."



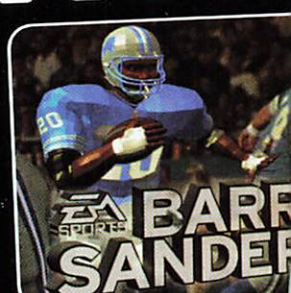
"We've been hiring people with degrees. ...college graduates stand out."

Jeff Barnes, executive producer at Computer Cafe



Animation is used in Video Games like these from EA Sports

FASCINATION FILM



FASCINATION FILM

Maybe animation is best known for its work in Movies like **A Bug's Life, Virus** *and* **Armageddon.**

Feeney says that computer animation is in a Golden Age and there are plenty of high-paying jobs at the moment. "Right now there are a lot of people employed because the software is complicated," he says. In that respect, the industry's not that different from when Disney employed thousands of animators to draw and paint animation cels by hand. Yet if advances in computer software, hardware and networking capabilities reduce the demand for animators, Feeney says, "What won't go away is the need for good design and visual understanding. People will always contribute to the creative process, as opposed to being an extra set of hands."

"Computer animation is in a Golden Age & there are plenty of high paying jobs..."

Local TV stations, web designers and others are using computer animation and offer opportunities to learn. Feeney also suggests reading trade and general interest publications, and books like *The Making of 'A Bug's Life'*."

Finally, Feeney has this piece of advice for would-be animators: "I think no matter what the nature of the tools, that this is an industry of filmmakers. If people think they are interested in this, (they need to understand) it's the world of photography, of videography. **This is an industry about images, not about computers. That's what you need to know."** ***M***

Feeney strongly recommends interning as a way to explore the field and decide if it's for you. "As an intern you make yourself as useful as possible and get paid practically nothing and you see what it's really like," he counsels. Though Feeney says "the level of detail and attention is more extreme" in motion pictures, you don't have to go to Hollywood to find an intern slot.

Ray Feeney, a four-time Academy Award winner

www.collegeedge.com
resource for major and career selection

www.memex-press.com/cc
critical comparisons of colleges

So You want to study animation?

t might surprise you to know that the path to a career in computer animation is through a college art or design department, not through computer science. Yes, it's important to understand and be comfortable with computers, but no animation gets made without an idea. And in animation, ideas express themselves visually.

So a strong background in art, along with a solid general education including math and science, will give you the knowledge and skills to keep up with a rapidly changing field. Since only a fortunate few will actually find work in the film industry, **a broad background will prepare you to work anywhere animation is being used: commercials, medicine, scientific visualization, virtual reality, games, architecture, and education.**

Like any field of study, there are top schools. California Institute of Arts, founded by Walt Disney, is the school for film studies. But not everyone can go to Cal Arts, so its encouraging to know that animation courses are being offered in colleges across the country. **Chances are the community college close to your home offers a two-year technical degree in design or media technology and may also offer the first two years of a bachelor's degree in fine arts.** If you look around, you may find a program that combines the study of film and video with art and animation and new, interactive media like CD-ROM and the World Wide Web, and many programs include on-the-job internships.

***Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI* offers an associate degree in Industrial Model Building. Graduates have the potential for employment as a model builder in the following areas: Architecture, Prototype, Engineering Design, Legal, Pattern, Mold Making and Entertainment Industry-Props and Special Effects.**

"Animation is hard, detail-oriented work which requires strong problem-solving capabilities," says professor Marla Schweppe, coordinator of the computer animation program at Rochester Institute of Technology. **"3-D computer animation demands ability from the left and right sides of the brain.** It takes about 1,000 to 4,000 individual images to make one minute of animation." Schweppe reports that, at the last World Animation Celebration, recruiters were telling students to go to college if they want to get into the business.

Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California, where Computer Cafe's Jeff Barnes has conducted seminars, offers programs in video and film production and applied design and media. There's also an associate of arts degree in art that includes study of electronic imagery and animation, and transfers to schools like California Polytechnic.

Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colorado, has a graphics and animation emphasis in its multi-media technology programs. Students take courses in "Animation and Rendering" and "Digital Editing" along with a core courses in math, science, and the humanities.

These are just a few examples of programs which can set you on a path to an exciting career in computer animation. Call your local community college today for more information on how they can help you realize your career goals. *M*

Advertisers use animation in TV Commercials like these from **Wrigleys, Doritos** *and For*

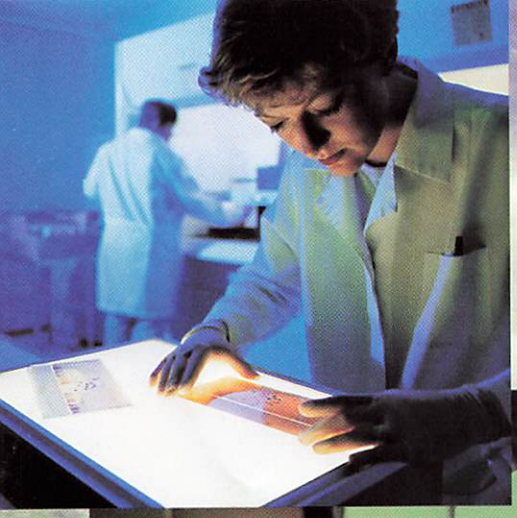
CR$H CROP 2000

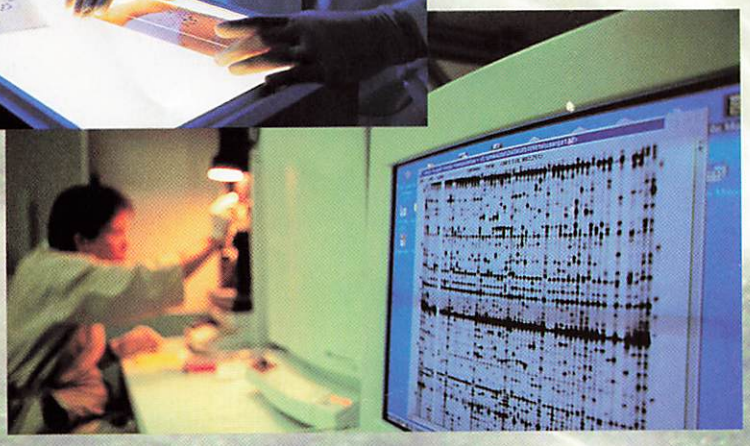
by Ann S. Boor

Old Macdonald Had a Farm with a Research Division, High Technology and High Hopes for the New Millennium.

Familiar with the old saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away?" This old adage has new meaning because SCIENCE is changing what we eat, why we eat it, and how we grow crops. This branch of science is known as BIOTECHNOLOGY.

"Biotechnology is a way of working with GENES to modify plants and animals for specific purposes," explained Fuller Bazer, Ph.D., director of the Institute of Biosciences and Technology of





LABORATORIES PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN DEVELOPING VACCINES FOR LIVESTOCK AND NEW CROP VARIETIES.

www.fie.com/molis/scholar.htm–Minority scholarships and fellowships.
www.ets.org–Information and suggestions on taking standardized tests, also career planning.

Texas A&M University and director of A&M's Center for Animal Biotechnology.

Biotechnology is changing everything in agriculture. "We are already making plants transgenic, which means inserting certain genes in them. This is being done in Third World countries to combat the rotavirus, which causes severe diarrhea, dehydration and death. The gene for rotavirus is inserted into a potato or banana and by eating it, people develop an immunity to the virus."

"The sky's the limit on what could be in plants to help our immune systems ward off viruses," continued Dr. Bazer. "We could design new plants with high levels of cancer preventive agents through plant breeding or genetic engineering. **The key word today – in the lab and on the farm – is nutraceuticals."**

Nutraceuticals are nutrients with pharmaceutical benefits. They are good news for human health and for the health of the farming industry. New plants developed to produce nutraceuticals could become lucrative alternative crop sources.

"For example, preliminary research shows that

BIOTECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING EVERYTHING IN AGRICULTURE

BIOTECHNOLOGY is the use of data, technology and engineering to study and solve problems concerning living organisms.

GENETICS is the study of genes and the genetic code. The genetic code is the order in which four chemical constituents are arranged in huge molecules of DNA. These molecules transmit genetic information to the cells.

NUTRACEUTICALS are foods, dietary supplements and medical foods that have a health-medical benefit, including the prevention and treatment of disease.

PHARMACEUTICALS are drugs or man-made medicines with health-medical benefits, including the prevention and treatment of disease.

Preliminary research suggests that chemical compounds produced in large quantities by the Ruby Red Rio Grande grapefruit may prove valuable in the fight against cancer.

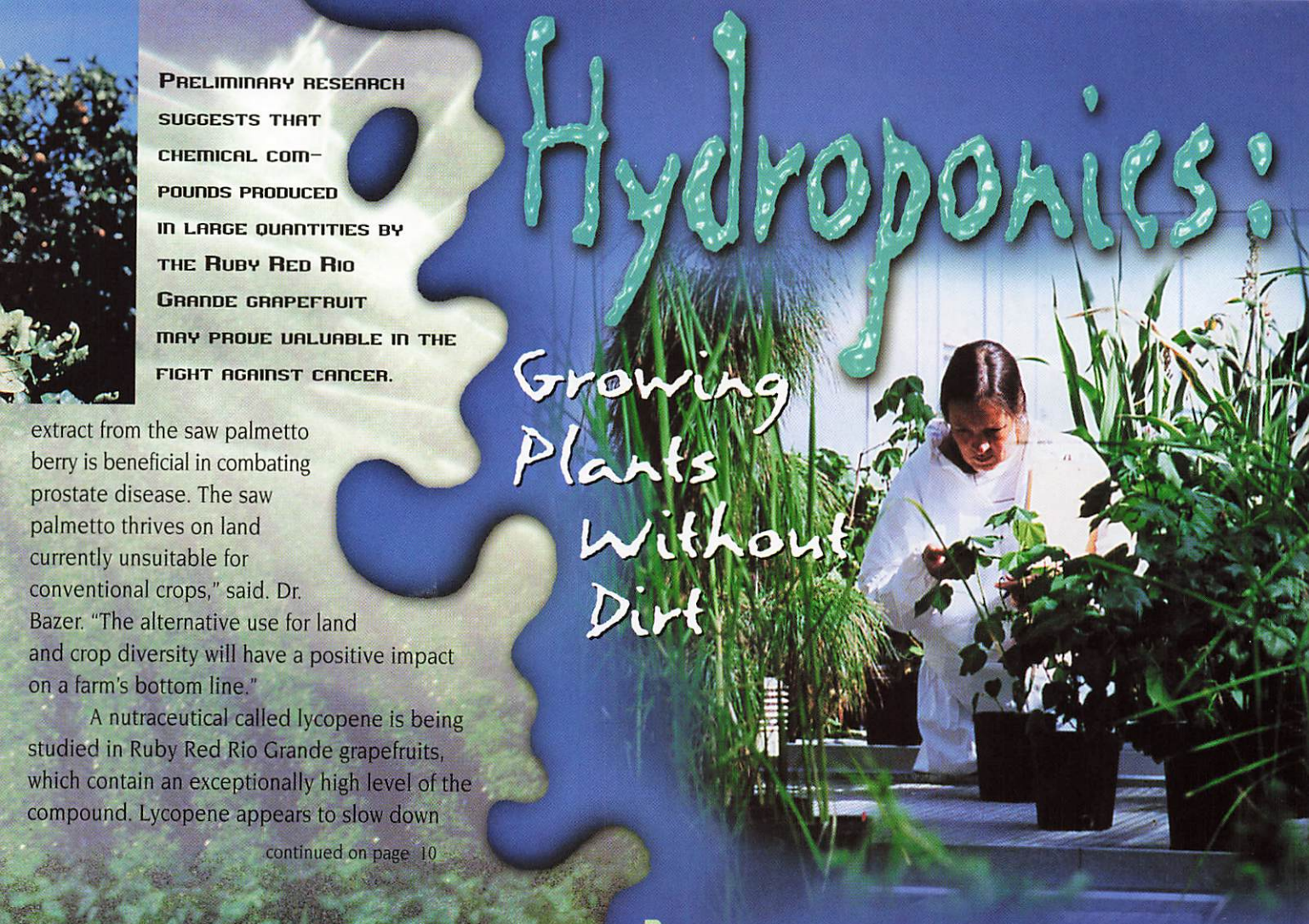
extract from the saw palmetto berry is beneficial in combating prostate disease. The saw palmetto thrives on land currently unsuitable for conventional crops," said. Dr. Bazer. "The alternative use for land and crop diversity will have a positive impact on a farm's bottom line."

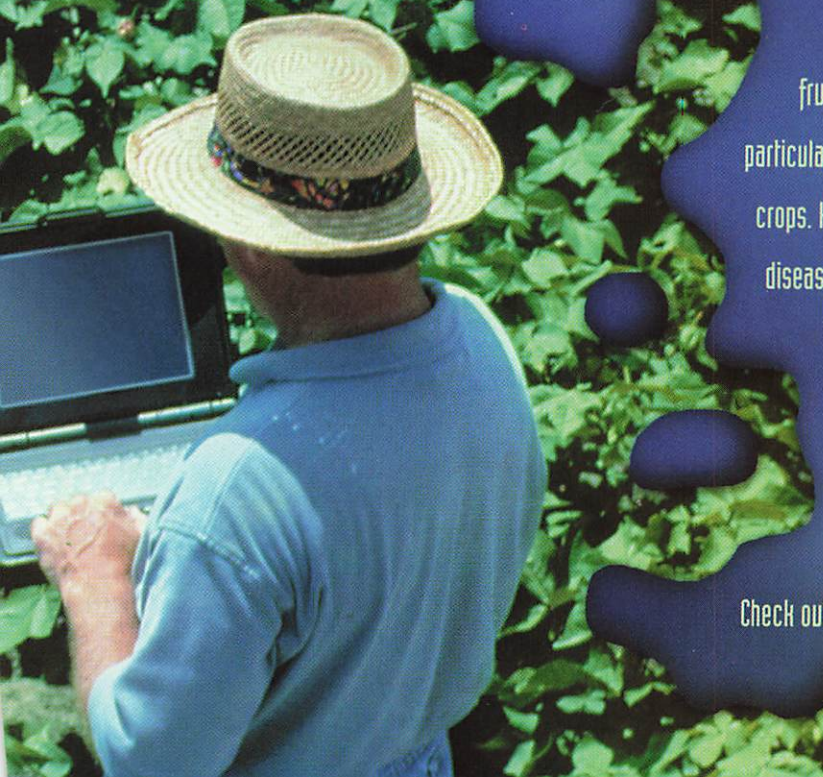
A nutraceutical called lycopene is being studied in Ruby Red Rio Grande grapefruits, which contain an exceptionally high level of the compound. Lycopene appears to slow down

continued on page 10

Hydroponics:

Growing Plants Without Dirt





Dramatic advances have been made in hydroponics, the science of growing plants without soil. Why pursue such a non-traditional method? Innovation is needed to address an increasing global demand for food supply.

Hydroponics is being used to successfully grow vegetables, fruits and herbs in a number of countries around the world. It is particularly beneficial in regions that lack soil rich in nutrients to support crops. Hydroponics also alleviates some of the problems of nature—disease, pests, temperature and moisture.

Through hydroponics, farmers have more precise control. A hydroponics farmer can manipulate a plant into producing more fruit rather than leaves and can often extend the growing season. The end results can be higher yields and better use of resources.

Check out this web site for profiles of interesting careers in agriculture: The URL is http://agweek.tamu.edu/.

THE 1015 SWEET ONION, DEVELOPED BY THE TEXAS AGM AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM, GENERATES AN ECONOMIC RETURN TO TEXAS OF WELL OVER $100 MILLION EACH YEAR. NEW AND HEALTHIER VARIETIES OF ONIONS ARE BEING DEVELOPED BY THE RESEARCHER ABOVE. THE PETRI DISH CONTAINS GERMINATING ONION SEEDS.

the growth of tumors. "If we can prove that lycopene is as effective as preliminary research shows, we can begin putting the gene in other fruits and vegetables. Again, this means new opportunities for farmers and great health benefits for us all."

Pharmaceuticals are also being produced in milk from livestock. Specific genes can be purified out of the milk and used to treat patients. Heart attack patients are already benefiting from this advancement. "Pigs are great milk producers," said Dr. Bazer. "And, since they reproduce at such a high pace, they can practically displace a drug company!"

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is also focused on reducing viruses in livestock that could impede this progress. Important developments have been made in developing vaccines for prevention.

The USDA has also been busy creating new opportunities for farmers and ranchers. In the past year, they have released 59 new varieties and 89 new lines of agricultural and horticultural crops. The goal is to increase U.S. agricultural competitiveness and provide nutrition, high production, and produce disease and insect resistant crops.

"I believe we are on the verge of another Green Revolution," said Dr. Bazer. "This Green Revolution will be caused by genetically modifying crops. You can see it through our work with corn and grain. We are making these crops more resistant to drought and pests. And, we are also producing plants that have a higher ratio of grain than stem and leaves. The focus is on producing more healthy rice kernels to feed a growing population."

Computers are supporting the Green Revolution. According to the USDA, 20 per cent of U.S. farms actively use computers to help with production, costs, and analysis.

One of the biggest advances is the Global Positioning System (GPS) for tractors. GPS satellites analyze the soil and guide farmers in decisions about irrigation, fertilization, pesticide use, and even what crops to grow. "Not many farms have these now," explained Dr. Bazer, "but we should expect to see GPS usage grow."

DR. BAZER CONDUCTING TESTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL LABORATORY OF TEXAS AGM UNIVERSITY

USDA Offers Summer Intern Program

An internship is a great way to evaluate if a career track is right for you. The USDA offers paid summer internships involving substantive work assignments to college students, or to high school graduates who have been accepted by a college. Internships are located in Washington, D.C., and throughout the nation. The application deadline for the program is usually the end of February. For additional information contact the office where you wish to work or: **USDA Office of Personnel • Attn.: Summer Intern Program Manager • Recruitment and Employment Division • 14th & Independence Avenue, S.W. • Room 301-W, Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building • Washington, D.C. 20250-9600**

What's Next?

"We had the agricultural age. Then came the industrial age. Now the information age. If the prognosticators are right, the 21st Century will start off with the biotechnology age which will totally revolutionize agriculture and medicine. **With so much on the horizon, the job market could really open up," said Dr. Bazer.**

"Those serious about pursuing a career should start with a solid base in the undergraduate level that includes molecular biology, genetics and chemistry. In particular, though, **you must have a strong love of biology. Combine that with a business background and I think you'll have a winning formula."**

Advanced degrees are typically the key to opportunities which can be found in the lab, corporate world, and on the farm. "There's really no distinction anymore between agriculture and pharmaceuticals" Dr. Bazer continued. "It's all one big area of chemistry serving people, so opportunities are opening up in the corporate arena."

"And, the biologists of the future will also be working at the farm level. Some will have roles on corporate farms overseeing production. Others will study survival traits in plants and animals and identify the best ways for farmers to produce what the consumer wants."

"Through scientific advances, we have the potential to see major improvements in human health, animal health, food safety and food production. Improving health and developing enough food for everyone to eat–you can't ask for a more gratifying job description." *M*

"THE BIOLOGISTS OF THE FUTURE WILL ALSO BE WORKING AT THE FARM LEVEL"

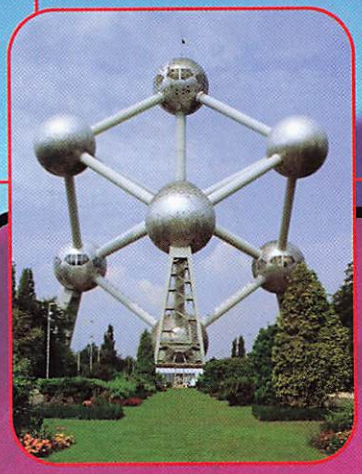
Interested in Agricultural Science?

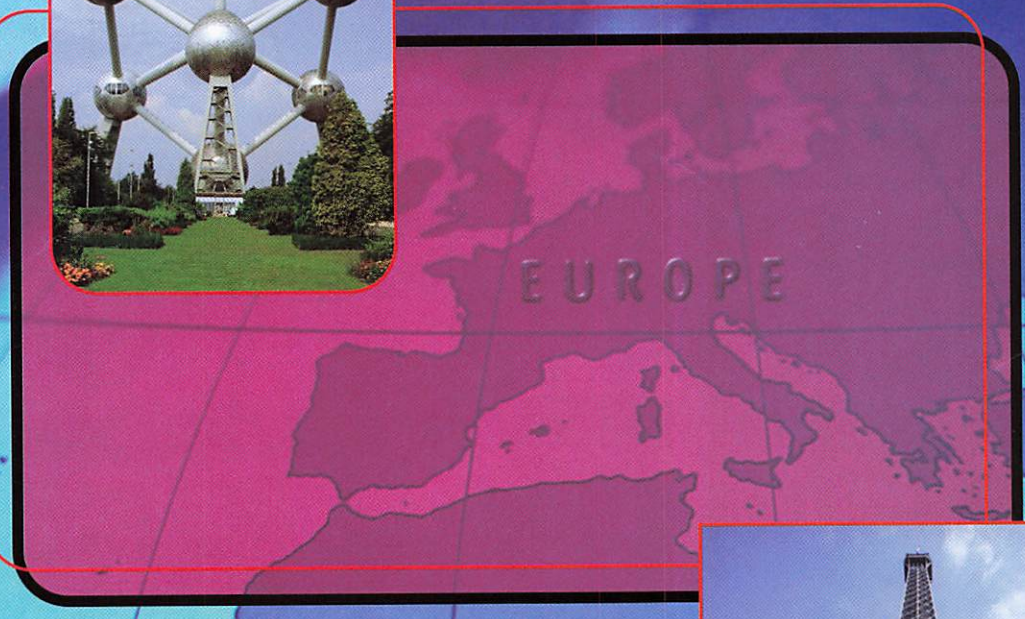
PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE AT A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES ACROSS THE COUNTRY. HERE ARE A FEW:

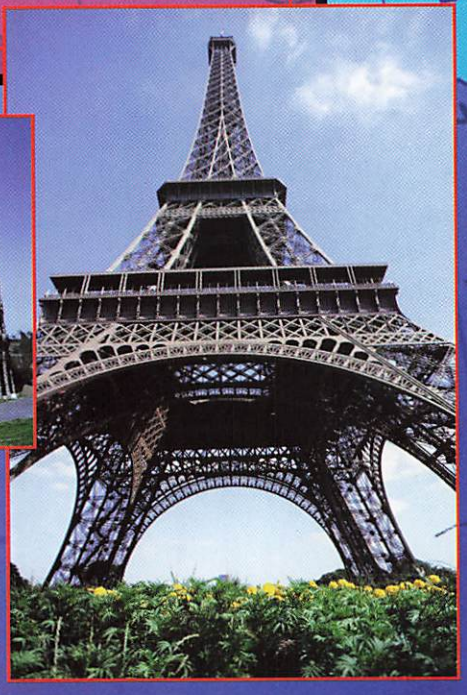
Brookhaven College, TX
College of Southern Idaho, ID
Elizabethtown Community College, KY
Iowa Western Community College, IO
Northeast Wisconsin Technical Institute, WI
San Juan Community College, NM
Southeast Kentucky Community College, KY
Tunxis Community Technical College, CT

The Year

Career alert: A new currency in
and challenges – for today's high







of the Euro

Europe will produce opportunities – school graduates. Here's a report:

The euro is here. On January 1, 1999, eleven European countries established a new bank and are getting ready to print new money. It's much like Monopoly money, but it is far more real.

Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain have formed the European Monetary Union (EMU) which has created a new legal tender, called the euro, accompanied by a common economic policy.

Britain is passing the buck (make that a euro buck) for now, and will decide later whether or not to join the European union.

Currently the euro is only being used for transactions among financial institutions and large companies. But in 2002, citizens will give up their francs, lire, Deutsche marks and pesetas in favor of euro bills and coins. **Streamlining the currencies among these countries will make daily life supremely easier for world business.** Imagine the complexity of doing business with 14 currencies and no fixed exchange rates. Comparison shopping used to be a nightmare-and for manufacturing companies that get parts from different countries, coming up with a retail price for the finished product was often a speculated risk. Those problems are solved with the common currency.

This new currency for Europe produces an economic giant overnight with monstrous ramifications – both good and bad-for America. American stocks have ruled the world for the past decade and a half, but with a Euro-stocks restructure, it will be Europe's turn to reign.

According to a recent Newsweek magazine report: "Stock prices may advance in Europe despite the slowdown in global economic growth.

TIMELINE:

1 January 1999

Monetary union begins with the irrevocable fixing of the conversion rates of the countries that qualified for EMU. The European Common Bank (ECB) initiates a single monetary policy and a foreign exchange rate policy conducted in euro. New tradable public debt will be issued in euro.

1 January 2002

The new euro notes and coins are introduced.

That's because profits can rise in companies that restructure, even if their sales don't. 'You could have 10 years of earnings growth, primarily due to cost-cutting,' says Diego Espinosa, who runs the Kemper Global Blue Chip Fund-'just as we had in the mid-1980s and early 1990s in the United States. I feel safer in European stocks,' Espinosa says.

In a global economy, a stronger Europe is better for everyone-including the U.S.

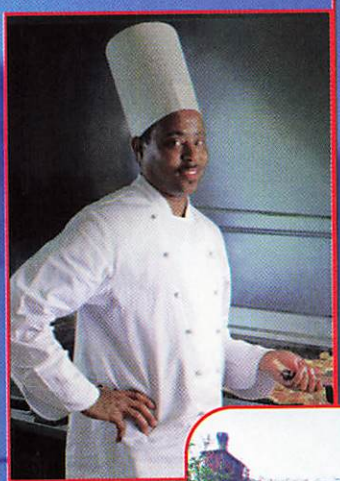
Experts agree that $20 billion a year in finance charges will be saved with the change-over to the common currency. Also, the common currency makes it so much easier to do business throughout the continent. There's less red tape, lower costs and more efficiency.

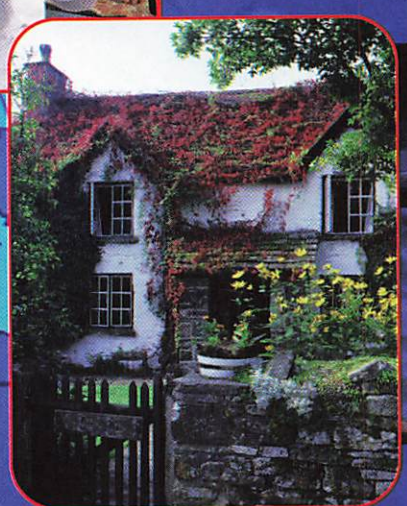
Director of the Institute for International Economics C. Fred Bergsten says that the euro will produce "a quantum leap in trans-Atlantic cooperation."

Bergsten predicted last year that currency issued by Europe and the United States, with Japan as a junior partner, will replace the dollar-centered system that has prevailed for most of the century.

Other experts believe that demand for dollars will be as strong as ever, thus keeping U.S. interest rates down.

Truth is, the euro is the biggest financial experiment of the century; no one can foresee its consequences. Only one thing is certain: change is here to stay.





1 July 2002

End of the transition phase. National currencies of EMU members will be completely replaced and cease to be a legal tender.

Opportunities in a Shrinking World

Tomorrow's business leaders will be interfacing with markets around the world. Better get ready now!

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and newly created common currency of Europe (the euro) makes two things crystal clear:

(1) The world is getting smaller and more competitive.

(2) New opportunities and career choices abound for smart American high school students who eye the world for potential careers.

The adoption of the euro is affecting a multitude of systems and software applications, including general ledger, accounts payable and receivable, taxation, price lists, payroll, expense accounts, and historical databases. It is impacting

electronic-commerce systems in every way possible: The euro symbol needs to be incorporated in computer keyboards, screen and printer fonts, and applications.

All this translates to fantastic job opportunities in the field of information technology, a profession that is already struggling to find qualified personnel to deal with consequences of Y2K and the conversion from multi-currencies to the euro. Experts predict a labor shortage until 2004, which means computer geeks may find themselves the target of a potential bidding war and offered signing bonuses like star athletes. Forget college sports-technology rules!

Career suggestion: Study computers at your local community college or technical institute. Reason? Two-year colleges and institutes offer instruction in the same computer software as do higher priced four-year colleges or proprietary schools, and classes are available for credit (which can be transferred into a four-year degree program) or non-credit (in short courses which take only a few weeks to complete).

The impact of the euro to the financial management field is tremendous. So, in addition to computer-related career moves, smart money is on those who opt for careers in finance and business.

Again, most community colleges offer the first two years of study for degrees in economics, finance and business, and many have studies in international business. Imagine staying near home and preparing for a career that will take you to financial capitals a continent away!

The same reality holds true for the North American Free Trade Agreement, which links the United States with Canada and Mexico (and through Mexico to all of Central and South America).

If you want to ride the leading edge, explore careers in international commerce, commercial trade and distribution, computer technology, travel and tourism-and don't forget to learn a foreign language while you're at it. The ability to converse in a second language will help you leap-frog up the corporate ladder.

In fact, enrollments are already jumping in foreign languages. NAFTA has made Portuguese, Spanish and French the haute languages of note.

Where can you begin your degree in any of these professional areas? The community college or technical institute close to home! If your local two year college or institute doesn't have a program in international commerce, commercial trade and distribution, or tourism, drop by for a talk with the college counselor. **Chances are an associate's degree (available at community colleges and technical institutes) can help you get basic courses out of the way before you transfer to an upper-level baccaleareaute program.** *M*

www.ACT.org–ACT information: registration and sample questions.
www.review.com–Princeton Review–search for colleges and take a practice SAT online.

SPEAK NOW!

MOVIN' ON magazine was created to help YOU learn more about life after high school—and especially about educational opportunities available at community colleges and technical institutes. Please help us prepare better publications in the future. Take a moment to complete our survey. Read the questions and mark your answers on the **Speak Now Answer Card** attached here. Tear out your completed postcard and drop it in the mail.

Thanks for your input!

ABOUT YOU

1. Which of the following do you plan to do first after graduation?
- a. Go full time to a 4-year college
- b. Work and attend a 4-year college
- c. Go full time to a 2-year college or technical institute
- d. Work and attend a 2-year college or technical institute
- e. Learn a "trade" or "skill" on the job—as a carpenter, mason, etc.
- f. Get a job and earn a living
- g. Get married and begin a family
- h. Join the military
- i. Other

2. Where do you plan to live after graduation?
- a. At home with your family
- b. Away at college
- c. On your own in an apartment

3. Did you have a job while in high school?
- a. Yes
- b. No

4. About how many times a week do you eat at a restaurant?
- a. 0
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. 3
- e. 4 or more

5. How many CDs or cassette tapes do you buy in a month?
- a. 0
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. 3
- e. 4 or more

6. How much do you spend on clothing in a month?
- a. $0-$50
- b. $50-$70
- c. $75-$100
- d. More than $100

7. What is your annual household income (your parents' combined income)?
- a. $10,000-$25,000
- b. $25,000-$35,000
- c. $35,000-$50,000
- d. $50,000-$75,000
- e. More than $75,000

ABOUT COLLEGE

8. What do you think is the best reason for going to college? (Choose one)
- a. To become more educated
- b. To have fun, go to parties, meet new people
- c. To get a good job
- d. To get away from home
- e. To do something until I decide what I want to do for a living
- f. To participate in sports
- g. To better yourself as a person

9. When choosing a college or institute, which factor do you think is most important? (Choose one)
- a. Location of the school
- b. Reputation of the school
- c. Size of the school
- d. Social life
- e. Large choice of majors
- f. Sports program
- g. Beautiful campus
- h. Tuition costs

10. If you are considering a college or institute, which of these would you most likely turn to for advice? (Choose one)
- a. High school guidance counselor
- b. Friends
- c. Teachers
- d. Parents
- e. Literature from colleges

11. If you are going to a college or institute, what percentage of the cost of college will you personally (not your family) contribute?
- a. Less than 25%
- b. 25%-50%
- c. 50%-75%
- d. 75%-100%

ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL

12. Do you think your high school did a good job preparing you for college?
- a. Very good
- b. Fair
- c. Poor
- d. No opinion

13. Do you think your high school did a good job providing you with career and job information?
- a. Very good
- b. Fair
- c. Poor
- d. No opinion

14. In high school, were you:
- a. An 'A' student
- b. A 'B' student
- c. A 'C' student
- d. A 'D' student

ABOUT MOVIN' ON

15. Was *Movin' On*:
- a. Very valuable and interesting
- b. Of value and interest
- c. Of little value and interest

16. How do you rate *Movin' On* as a source of information about careers and colleges?
- a. Best I've seen
- b. Better than most
- c. Not that great
- d. Poor

17. How did you receive *Movin' On*?
- a. Through the mail
- b. At a college day or college night exhibit
- c. At a literature rack
- d. Other

18. How long do you think you will keep *Movin' On*?
- a. Six months or longer
- b. Three months
- c. A month
- d. A week

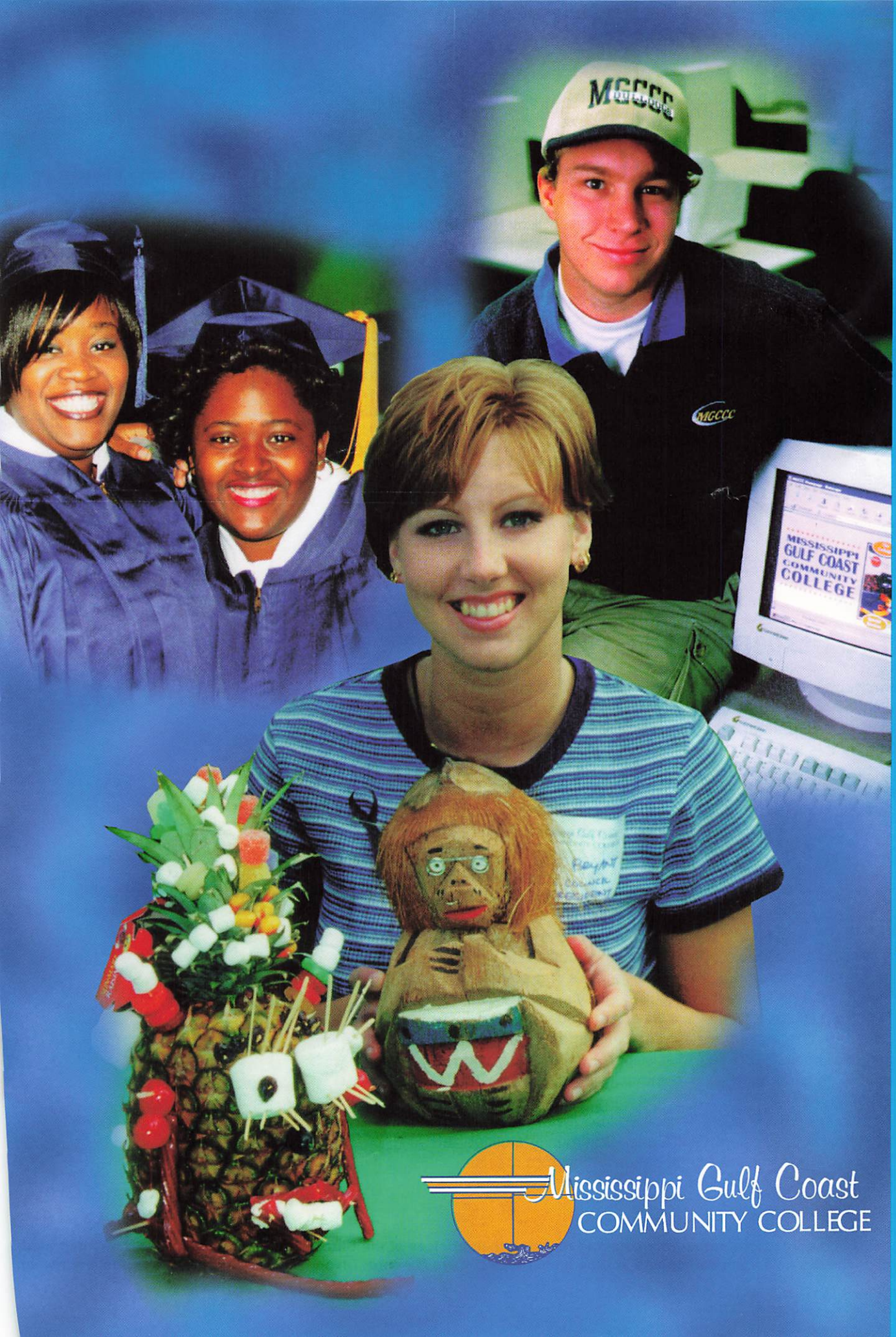
19. Have any of your friends seen your copy of *Movin' On*?
- a. Yes, one
- b. Yes, two
- c. Yes, three
- d. Yes, four or more
- e. No

20. Have your parents seen your copy of *Movin' On*?
- a. Yes
- b. No

21. Do you think next year's juniors and seniors should receive *Movin' On*?
- a. Yes
- b. No

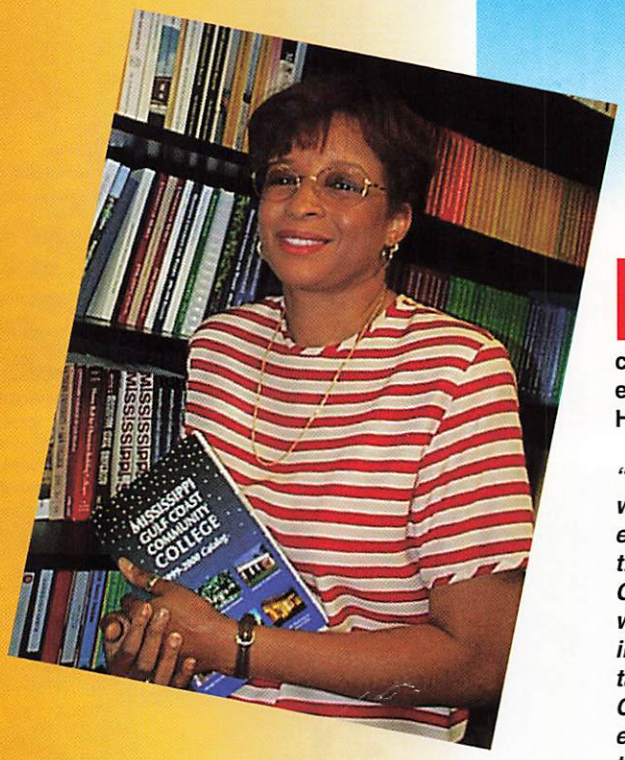
22. After reading *Movin' On*, are you more likely or less likely to attend a community college or technical institute?
- a. More likely
- b. Less likely

23. How can *Movin' On* be improved?
(Please comment on the card.)



Mississippi Gulf Coast
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Kathy Holmes-Williams, Career Center technician, helps students explore career options and college choices and complete job searches at Harrison Central High School.

"As Career Center technician, I work very hard to make a difference and share my experience and the information available in the Career Center. I plan workshops with college and military recruiters inside and outside the school. I take my responsibility as Career Center technician seriously and enjoy sharing a wealth of information with many people."

FACT:

Three out of four Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College students transfer to a university.

What is Tech Prep?

"What I find most interesting is seeing how Tech Prep integrates activites. Students relate academic areas with vocational skills, giving them a chance to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-world experiences."

Dr. David Daves
Principal, Stone High School

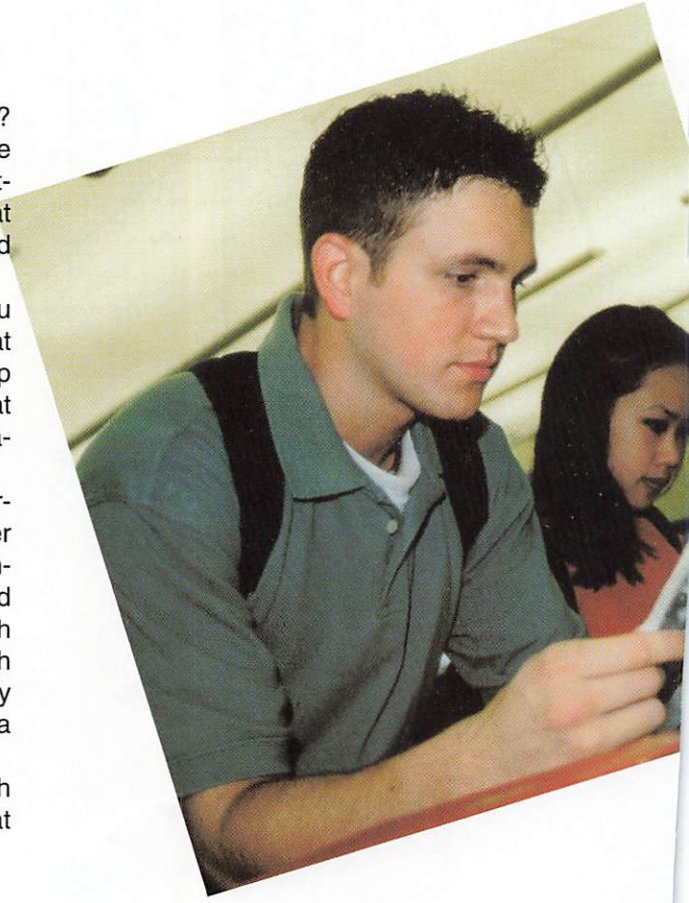
TECH PREP: Experience the Possibilities

Research papers on career fields instead of Shakespeare? Racing toy cars while learning algebra? Taking blood pressure on a human and measuring tire pressure on a car, then relating the two? Is this for real? It certainly is, and it's all happening at a school near you. It's called Tech Prep, and it's taking teachers and students where no person has ever been before.

Most of you have probably already experienced Tech Prep, and you know where it can take you. It's a unique educational initiative that finds vocational and academic teachers working together to develop lessons that incorporate "real-life" exercises for you, the student. What this does is enhance academic skills in vocational classes and vocational skills in academic classes. But there's more.

Tech Prep also gives you the know-how needed in today's job market and makes you more visible for career advancement. And whether you want to go straight to work, go for an associate's degree at a community college, or go on to a four-year college for your bachelor's and beyond, Tech Prep is behind you all the way. And remember that Tech Prep involves just about everyone -- your parents and friends, high schools, and businesses. And, yes, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, as well as other Mississippi community/junior colleges, has a hand in it, too.

If you'd like to learn more about Tech Prep, call Dean Belton, Tech Prep coordinator at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, at (601) 928-6397, or e-mail him at dean.belton@mgccc.cc.ms.us.



"Our students first determine career interests and research their choices at the Career Center. Information is then integrated into English classes as a composition and source topic project," says Margaret Dixon, George County High School counselor.

TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

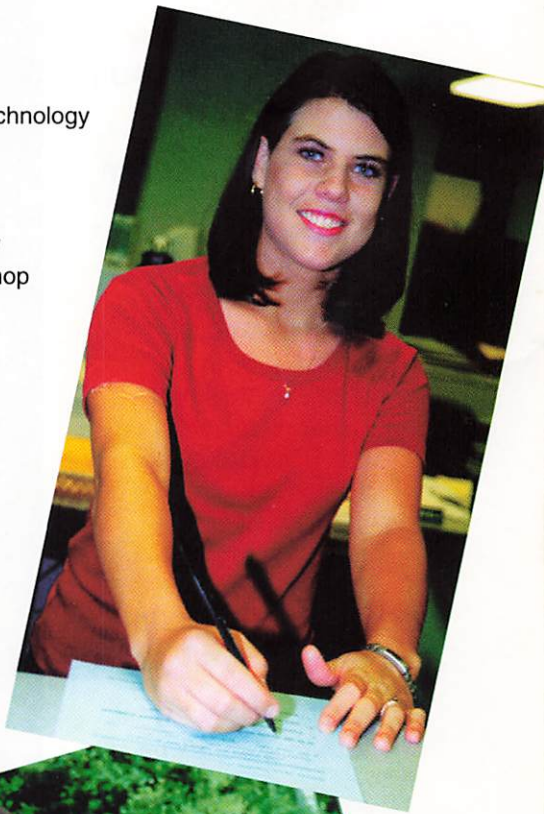
Accounting Technology
Associate Degree Nursing
Banking & Finance Technology
Biotechnology
Business Management Technology
Child Development Technology
Computer Networking Technology
Computer Programming Technology
Computer Servicing Technology
Court Reporting Technology
Criminal Justice
Drafting & Design Technology
Electronics Technology
Emergency Medical Tech./Paramedic
Environmental Technology
Fashion Marketing Technology
Fire Protection Technology
Funeral Services Technology
Golf / Recreational Turf Management
Graphic Design Technology
Horticulture Technology
Hotel and Restaurant Management
Human Services
Interpreter Training
Marketing Management Technology
Medical Laboratory Technology
Medical Office Technology
Medical Radiologic Technology
Microcomputer Technology
Office Systems Technology
Paralegal Technology
Pharmacy Technician
Respiratory Care Technology
Telecommunications Technology
Travel/Tourism Management Technology

VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Aquaculture
Auto Collision Repair Technology
Automotive Mechanics
Automotive Parts & Accessories Marketing
Commercial Truck Driving
Commercial Residential Maintenance
Cosmetology
Electrical Technology
Facilities Maintenance
Food Production & Management Technology
Heating & Air Conditioning
Industrial Drafting Technology
Industrial Maintenance Trades
Landscape Management Technology
Machine Tool Operation/Machine Shop
Marine Engine Mechanics
Office Systems Technology
Plumbing/Pipefitting
Practical Nursing
Residential Carpentry
Surgical Technology
Teacher Assistant
Welding

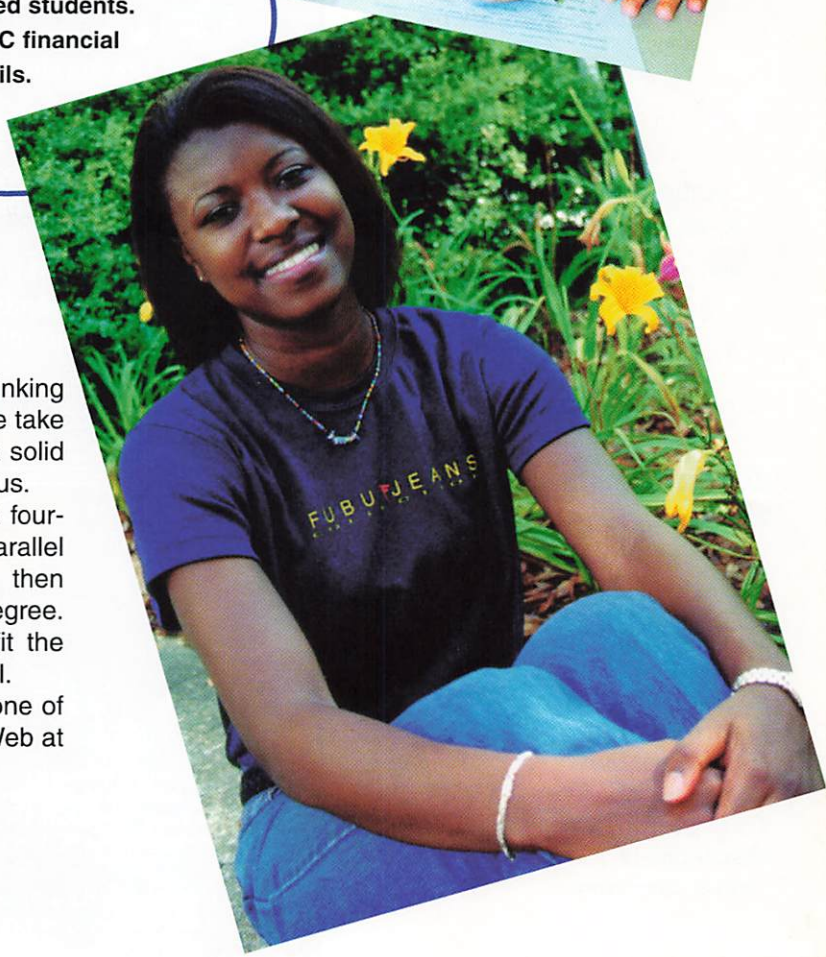
FACT:

Gulf Coast offers affordable tuition: $450 a semester for full-time students and $53 a semester hour for part-time students. Book rental service is $11.25 each course.



FACT:

Vocational/Technical Scholarships available for qualified students. Contact any MGCCC financial aid office for details.



Academic Programs

Thinking about a four-year degree? Start thinking about Gulf Coast, your community college. We take special pride in giving you a good start and a solid foundation before you head off to a university campus.

Tech Prep helps you make choices that lead to a four-year degree. Through our academic/university parallel programs, you can get an associate of arts degree, then transfer to a university to complete your four-year degree. We can customize your program and degree to fit the transfer requirements of almost any four-year school.

So check out what we have to offer. Call or visit one of our three campuses, or visit us on the World Wide Web at www.mgccc.cc.ms.us.

LOCATIONS

JACKSON COUNTY CAMPUS
(228) 497-9602

PERKINSTON CAMPUS
(601) 928-5211

JEFFERSON DAVIS CAMPUS
(228) 896-3355

GEORGE COUNTY CENTER
(601) 947-4201

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(228) 897-4360

WEST HARRISON COUNTY CENTER
(228) 868-6057

KEESLER CENTER
(228) 432-7198

COMMUNITY CAMPUS
(228) 897-4360

WORLD WIDE WEB
www.mgccc.cc.ms.us

FACT:

In 1998-99, Gulf Coast students received $12.2 million in financial aid, which includes grants, loans, scholarships and work study.

You can experience Tech Prep at the follwing South Mississippi schools:

Biloxi
Gulfport
Harrison Central
Stone County
George County
Pass Christian
Long Beach
East Central
Pascagoula
Ocean Springs
Moss Point
D'Iberville
Vancleave
St. Martin
Gautier

Checklist for Admission

- ✦ **Complete MGCCC Application for Admission and bring or mail it to the Admissions Office at the campus of your choice, or fill out an on-line application at www.mgccc.cc.ms.us.**
- ✦ **Complete and mail in MGCCC Housing Application (Perkinston Campus only, $25 housing application deposit).**
- ✦ **Request official high school transcript and have the transcript mailed directly to the Admissions Office at the campus of your choice.**
- ✦ **Submit a copy of your American College Test (ACT) Scores to the Admissions Office (academic and technical programs only). No minimum score required for admission to MGCCC.**

Mississippi Gulf Coast
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

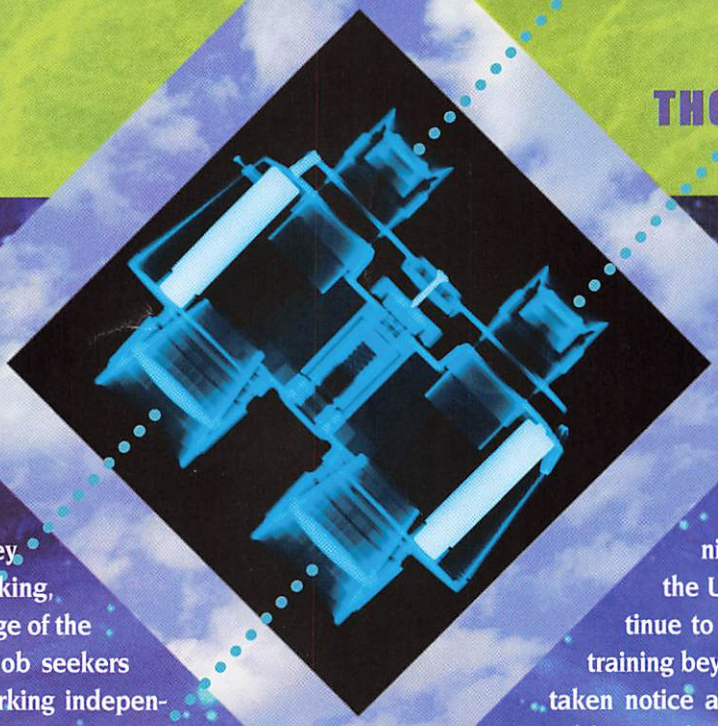
TECH PREP

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes students and employees without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, or qualified disability. If you have questions regarding services for students with disabilities, please contact the Office of the Dean of Student Services at the campus of your choice.

Information in this publication is subject to change without prior notice. Information contained herein shall not constitute a binding agreement on the part of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

HEADS UP: THE 21ST CENTURY IS HERE!

EXPERTS HAVE BEEN PREDICTING FOR SEVERAL DECADES THAT THE JOBS OF THE 21ST CENTURY WILL BE GREATLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF THE PAST.



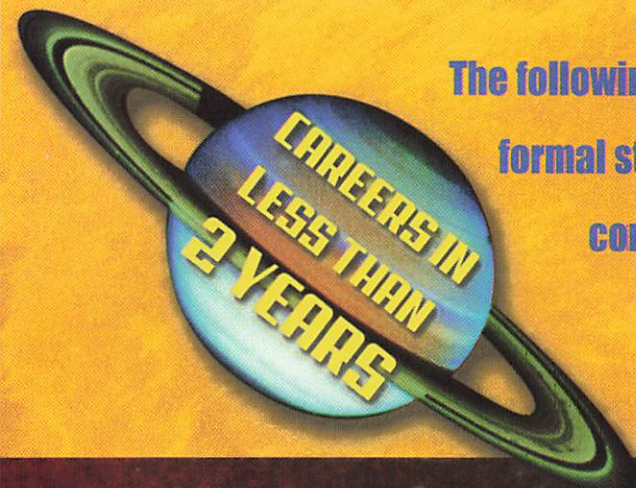
So, too, are the "must-have" employment skills of tomorrow's promising employees. According to organizational behavior consultant **Carolyn Corbin,** those key skills are independent thinking, team work skills, and knowledge of the latest technology. Successful job seekers must be equally skilled in working independently and as team players. Prospective employees who want or need constant direction and supervision will be left in the dust.

The workplace of the future is burrowed in a performance-based world. If you want a meaningful job, you'll need to be "technology smart" and capable of keeping up with state-of-the-art techniques. Smart jobs, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, continue to require education and formal training beyond high school. If you haven't taken notice already, it's high time you prepared for your first "real job."

Here is a list of occupations that promise bright futures.

BY JOYCE BOATRIGHT

HOT JOBS WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

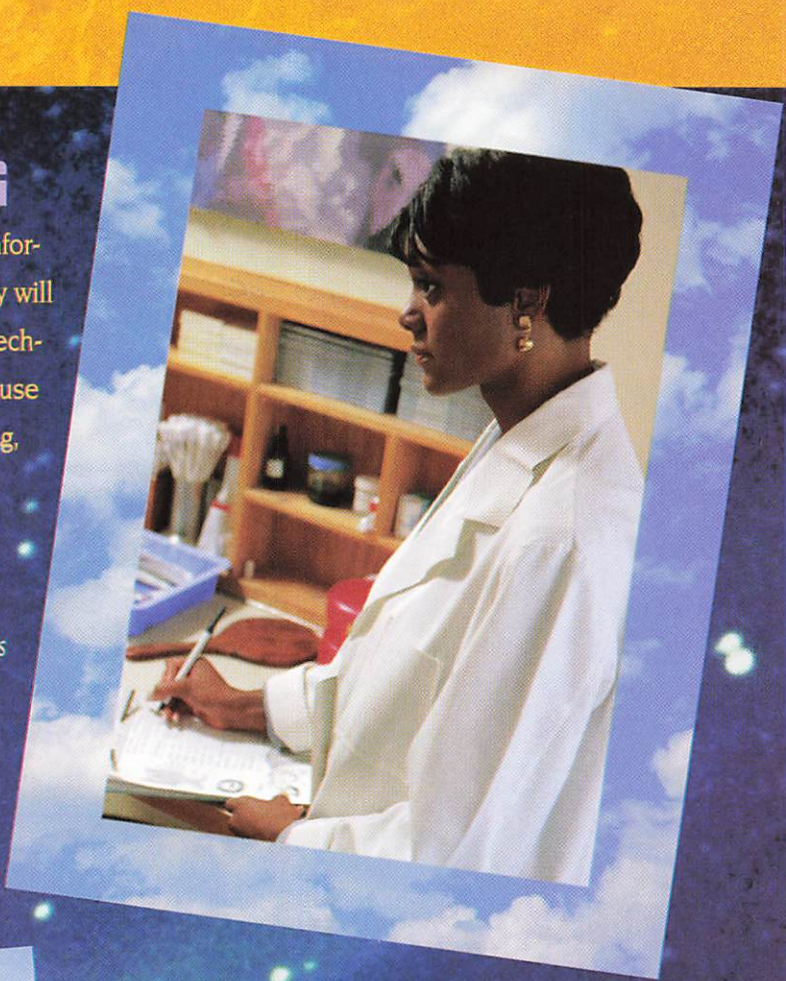


The following are career options requiring less than two years of formal study for entry level positions. Training is available at community colleges or technical institutes, or adult and extension divisions of public or private schools.

MEDICAL SECRETARIES

perform and coordinate office activities and are often the information clearinghouse for the office. In the 21st Century, they will assume the responsibilities in the operation of new office technologies. Increasingly, secretaries must be proficient in the use of personal computers to run spreadsheets, word processing, database management, and even desktop publishing and graphics programs.

SALARY: *Starting salaries differ greatly depending on personal skills, level of responsibility, industry and geographic region. Beginning salaries for entry level secretaries employed by the federal government is around* $21,000.

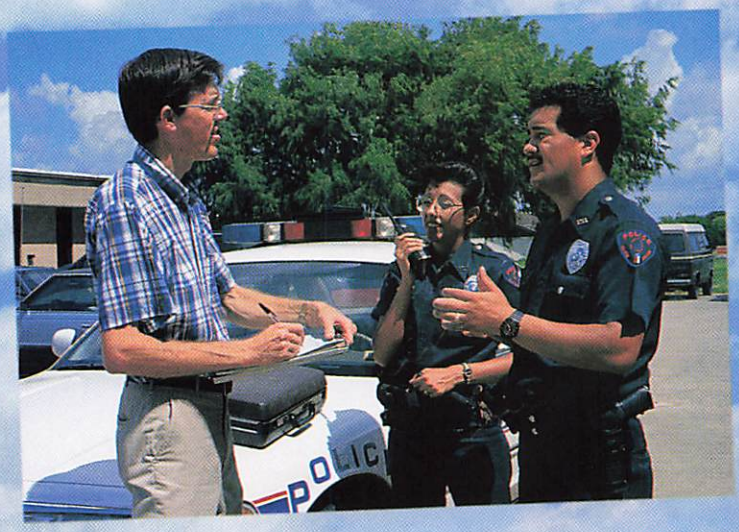


TEACHER AIDES

(also called Instructional Aides and Para-Educators) perform a combination of instructional and clerical duties. Many work with special education teachers. At the secondary level, teacher aides often specialize in a certain subject, such as math or science. Others may work in computer labs, assisting students in using computers and software programs. Increasingly, employers prefer aides who have some postsecondary training.

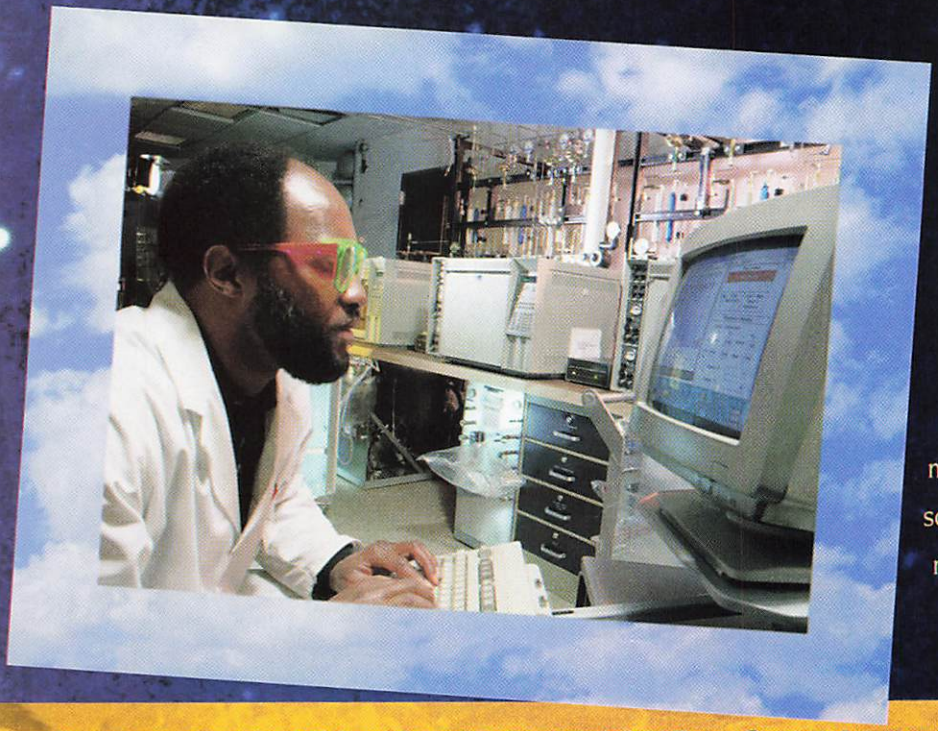
SALARY: *Earnings vary by region, work experience and academic qualifications, but the average is* $8.50-to-$9 *per hour.*

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SERVICE ASSISTANTS



(also known as Case Management Aide, Social Work Assistant, Residential Counselor, Alcohol or Drug Abuse Counselor, Mental Health Technician, Life Skill Counselor, Gerontology Aide) work under the supervision of professionals from a wide variety of fields, such as nursing, psychiatry, psychology, rehabilitation or social work. The amount of responsibility and supervision they are given varies a great deal. In community settings, they may organize and lead group activities, assist clients in need of counseling or crisis intervention, or administer a food bank or emergency fuel program. In halfway houses, group houses or government-supported housing programs, they assist adult residents who need supervision in daily living skills. In psychiatric hospitals, rehab programs and outreach clinics, they support the clients' participation in a treatment plan by conducting individual or group counseling and occupational therapy.

SALARY: *Range from* $15,000 *to* $24,000



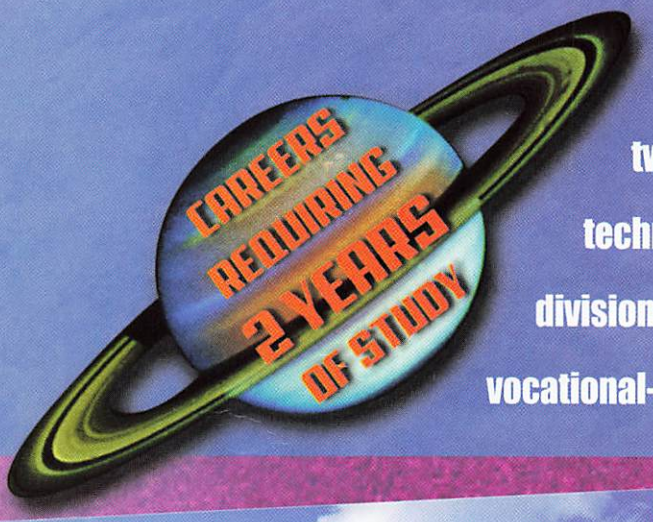
BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNICIANS

inspect, modify, maintain and repair complex medical equipment and instruments used in hospitals, labs and other clinical areas. Although a degree is not currently a requirement, most practicing bio med equipment techs have at least an associate's degree, so a two-year degree most likely will be a minimum job entry requirement in the near future.

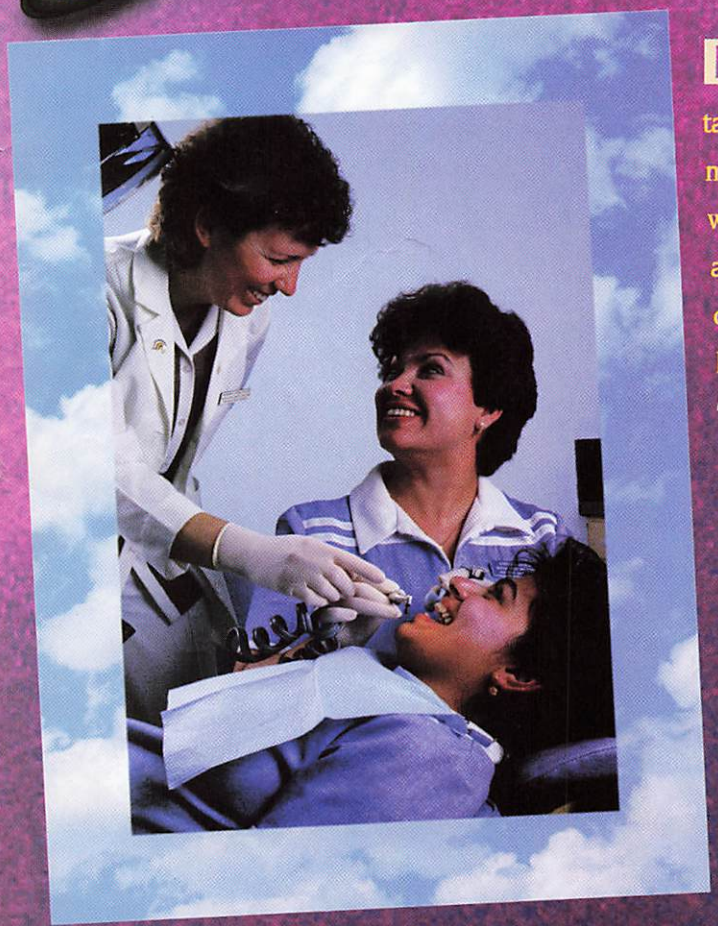
SALARY: *Ranges from* $17,000 *to* $21,000 *per year for entry level.*

Here are some additional careers requiring Post-Secondary or Vocational Training after High School:

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY–starting annual salary: $19,700; average salary: $40,600
AIRLINE PILOT–average $26,290 annually for smaller craft; $76,800 for major airlines
AUTO BODY REPAIRER–median salary: $463 per week
BARBER/COSMETOLOGIST–median salary: $290 per week
CHILD CARE WORKER–median salary: $250 per week
FLIGHT ATTENDANT–salary range is from $12,800 to about $40,000 annually
EXECUTIVE CHEF–average salary: $38,000 annually
FORESTRY WORKER–average salary: $28,300 annually
LINE INSTALLER/CABLE SPLICER–median salary: $703 per week
POLICE DETECTIVE–median salary: $34,700; supervisors: median $41,200 annually
PRINTING PRESS OPERATOR–median salary: $484 per week
TRAVEL AGENT–staring salary: $421 per week
TRUCK DRIVER–salaries vary greatly, up to about $40,000 annually
UPHOLSTER–median salary: $366 per week



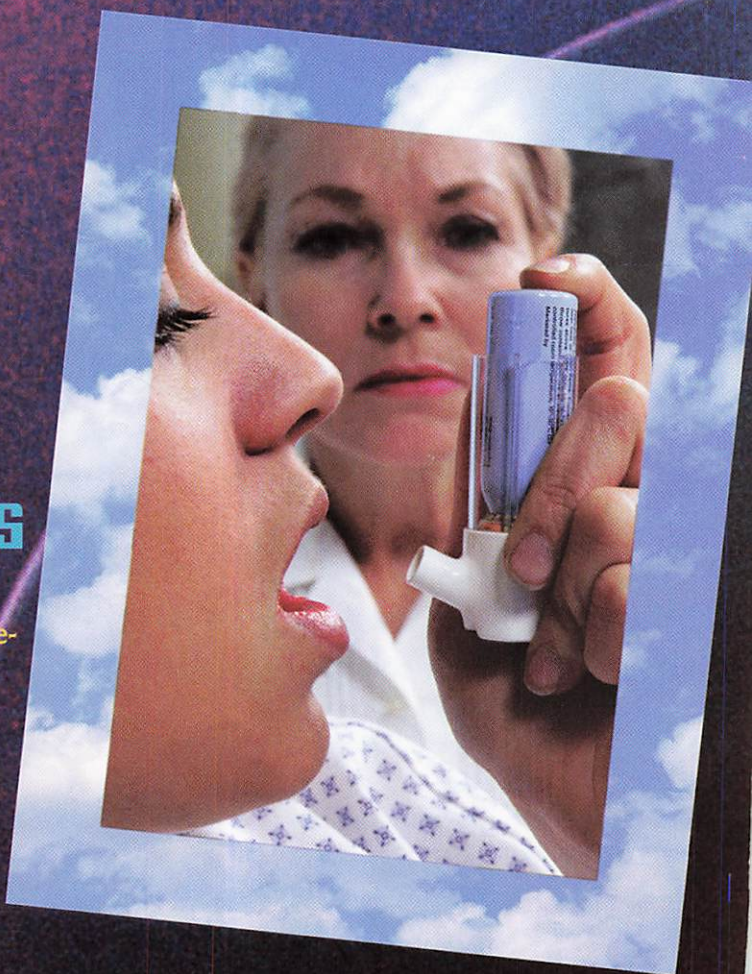
The following are career options requiring at least two years of formal study. Training is provided by technical institutes, community colleges, extension divisions of colleges and universities, or public and private vocational-technical schools.



DENTAL HYGIENISTS

clean teeth, take and develop dental x-rays and help patients develop and maintain good oral health. They must be licensed by the state in which they work. To qualify for licensure, they must graduate from an accredited dental hygiene school. A two-year or associate's degree is sufficient for practice in a private dental office; a bachelor's degree is usually required for research.

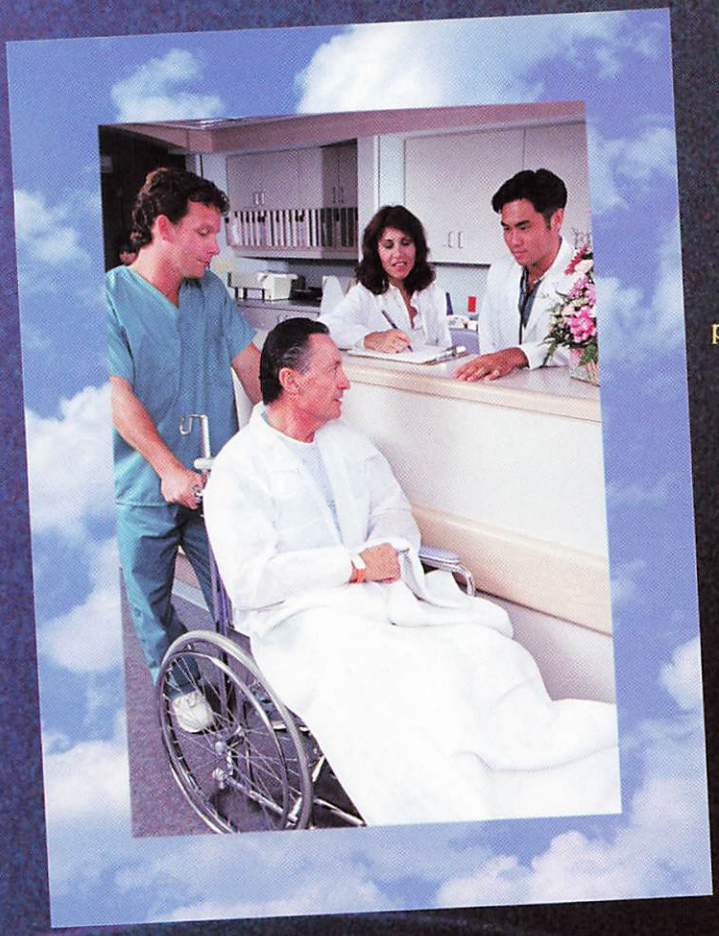
SALARY: *Earnings depend on geographic region, employment setting and education. Hygienists may be paid hourly, daily, salary or commission basis.*



RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS

(also known as Respiratory Care Practitioners) evaluate, treat and care for patients with breathing disorders, ranging from premature babies whose lungs are not fully developed to elderly folks whose lungs are diseased. They are expanding into cardiopulmonary procedures like electrocardiograms and stress testing. About nine out of ten jobs are in hospitals. Home health agencies, respiratory therapy clinics and nursing homes account for the remaining jobs.

SALARY: *Around* $32,500.



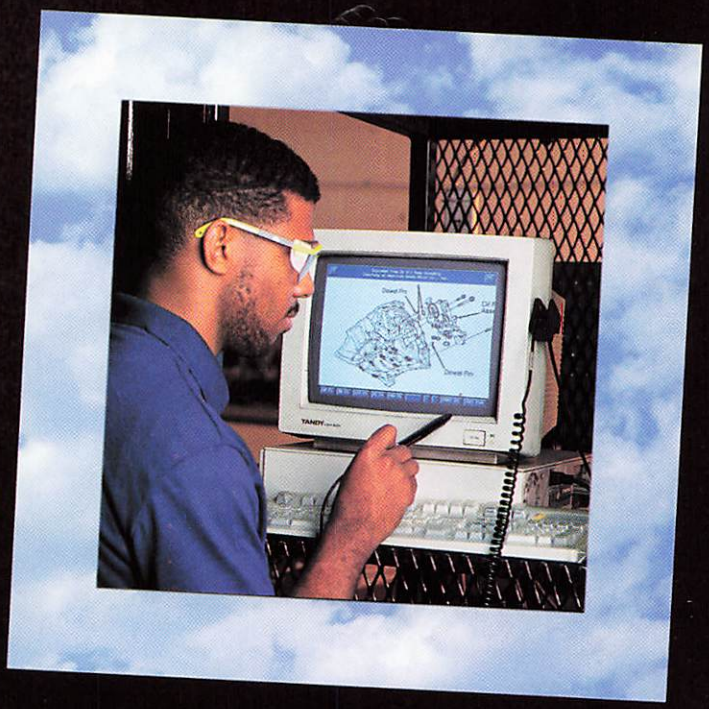
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

(called Licensed Vocational Nurses in Texas and California) provide basic bedside care for patients under the direction of physicians and registered nurses. Most work in hospitals, others in nursing homes and others in doctor's offices and clinics.

SALARY: *Median weekly earnings are around* $500. *Many earn more in overtime.*

www.NCAA.org-Resource for regulations and requirements for athletic scholarships.

www.usnews.com/usnews/edu-Find a college, a scholarship and what the best jobs are.



DIESEL MECHANICS

(also referred to as Diesel Technicians) repair and maintain the engines that power transportation equipment, such as trucks, buses and locomotives. Diesel maintenance is becoming more complex, as electronic components increasingly are being used to control engine operations. In modern shops, diesel mechanics use computers to diagnose problems and adjust engine functions. Employers prefer to hire graduates of formal training programs beyond high school because they are able to quickly advance to the journey mechanic level.

SALARY: *Median weekly earnings are* $545, *but earnings will vary by industry and geographic location.*

Here are some additional careers requiring Two Years of College:

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN–median salary: $478 per week
CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIST–average salary: $33,600 annually
COURT REPORTER–average salary: $1,080 per week
DRAFTER–median salary: $31,250
ELECTRONIC PRE-PRESS WORKER–median salary: $497 per week
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PARAMEDIC–average salary: $30,407 annually
ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN–starting salary: $20,000 annually
FASHION DESIGNER–median salary: $590 per week
GRAPHIC ARTIST–median salary: $27,100 annually
JEWELER–median salary: $32,100 annually
MILLWRIGHT–median salary: $670 per week
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT–starting salary: about $27,442
RADIOLOGIC TECHNICIAN–median salary: $28,800 annually
REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN–median salary: $536 per week
REGISTERED NURSE–median salary: $697 per week
SURVEYOR–median salary: $694 per week
WELDER–median salary: $478 per week

CAREERS IN 4 YEARS OR MORE

These career options require at least a bachelor's degree to break into the field. Formal education programs are offered by public and private senior colleges and universities, but community colleges and technical institutes can provide the first two years toward the bachelor's degree in most cases–and at a considerable savings!

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

use their knowledge and skills to solve computer problems and enable computer technology to meet the needs of an organization. They study business, scientific or engineering data processing problems and design new solutions using computers. They may design entirely new systems, including both hardware and software, or add a single new software application to harness more of the computer's power. A bachelor's degree is virtually a prerequisite for a job, and for some of the more complex jobs, persons with graduate degrees are preferred.

SALARY: *Starting offers for grads with bachelor's degrees averages* $36,000, *but large firms may start between* $46,000 *and* $58,000. *Offers vary by functional area.*

PHYSICIANS

diagnose illnesses and treat injuries and diseases. About one-third of medical doctors (MD's) are primary care physicians who practice general and family medicine, general internal medicine or general pediatrics. Job prospects are best for primary care physicians or doctors who specialize in geriatrics and preventive care because of the sharp rise in an aging population.

SALARY: *Average salaries of medical residents ranged from* $33,000 *for those in their first year of residency to* $41,000 *for those in their sixth year. Median net income for general internal medicine is* $138,000; *for pediatrics,* $129,000; *and for general family practice,* $124,000.

MARKET RESEARCH ANALYSTS

are concerned with the potential sales of a product or service. They design methods and procedures for obtaining data and then analyze the statistical data on past sales to predict future sales.

SALARY: *Average salary for a grad with a bachelor's degree is* $28,000, *while senior marketing analysts with advanced degrees earn six-figure salaries.*

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

work with people who cannot make speech sounds, or cannot make them clearly; those with rhythm or fluency problems, such as stuttering; those with cognitive communication impairments, such as attention, memory and problem solving disorders; people with voice quality problems; and those with problems understanding and producing language. A master's degree is a standard credential.

SALARY: *While earnings vary by geographic region and type of employment facility, a certified speech-language pathologist can expect to earn about* $38,000 *the first year or so.*

These are only a few of the jobs you can depend upon for a bright future. THERE ARE LOTS MORE, so if you don't see the one you are interested in here, visit your library and ask for the U.S. Occupational Outlook Handbook. Or browse it on the Internet. Go to http://stats.bls.gov/emppub2.htm

THE MAIN THING IS TO START INVESTIGATING NOW! While there are some fast growing careers on the line, there are also jobs being invented that didn't even exist five years ago–and still others are on the horizon. *M*

Here are some additional careers requiring Four or more Years of College:

AEROSPACE ENGINEER–starting salary: $37,957 annually
AIR SAFETY INSPECTOR–average salary: $66,110 annually
ARCHEOLOGIST–median salary: $35,000 annually
CHOREOGRAPHER–salaries vary greatly, up to $3,400 weekly
CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST–average salary: $40,680 annually
DIETICIAN–median salary: $34,400
ECOLOGIST–median salary: $37,000 annually
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER–average salary: $37,900 annually
FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE–$133,600 annually
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT–median salary: $39,500 annually
LOAN OFFICER–varies between $30,600 and $45,000 annually
LIBRARIAN–average salary: $50,400 annually
METEOROLOGIST–median salary: $57,000 annually
MUSEUM CURATOR–median salary: $50,000 annually
PURCHASER–median salary: $33,200 annually
RADIO/TV ANNOUNCER–median salary: $31,251 annually
TECHNICAL WRITER–average salary: $47,440 annually

Source: U.S. Occupational Outlook Handbook

WHERE T

Careers in the 15 fastest growing career

The technical expertise and professionalism required of employees in the American workplace is increasing at a phenomenal rate. Unlike any other generation, today's workers must develop an educational ethic that parallels their strong work ethic.

In fact, the demand for a skilled workforce is perhaps the greatest challenge facing colleges and universities these days. Just a generation ago–in the swingin' Fifties–only 20% of all jobs required education after high school. The chances were good that a high school graduate could step out of mortar board and gown and into a meaningful, well-paying job, perhaps in retailing, construction trades or manufacturing.

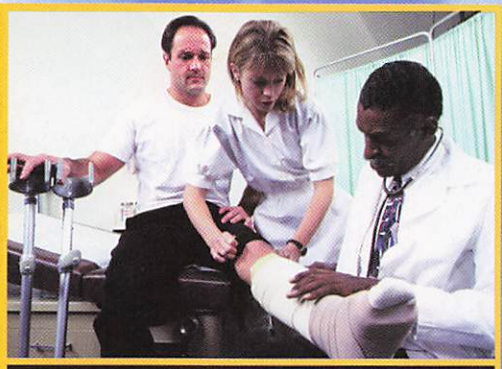
Those days are gone! **It is estimated that in this millennium year, more than 80% of all new jobs will require at least two years of education after high school.** And a strong national economy, expanding global markets and easier access to higher education for the masses are fueling competition for the best jobs. High school graduates who choose not to continue on to college will likely lose out in the push and shove for top paying positions. Those pressures are creating stresses for colleges and students alike.

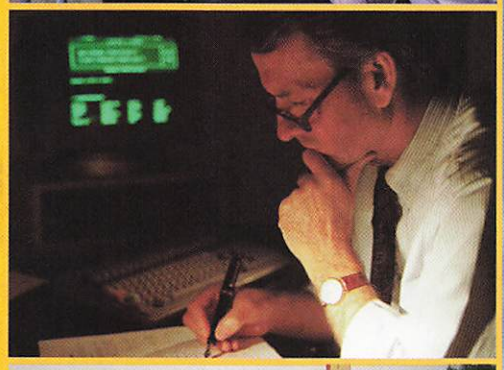
	OCCUPATION	ESTIMATED EMPLOYEES
1.	Personal and Home Care Aides	391,000
2.	Home Health Aides	848,000
3.	Systems Analysts	928,000
4..	Computer Engineers	372,000
5.	Physical and Corrective Therapy Assistants and Aides	142,000
6.	Electronic Pagination Systems Workers	33,000
7.	Occupational Therapy Assistants and Aides	29,000
8.	Physical Therapists	183,000
9.	Residential Counselors	290,000
10.	Human Service Workers	293.000
11.	Occupational Therapists	93,000
12.	Manicurists	64,000
13.	Medical Assistants	327,000
14.	Paralegals	175,000
15.	Medical Records Technicians	126,000

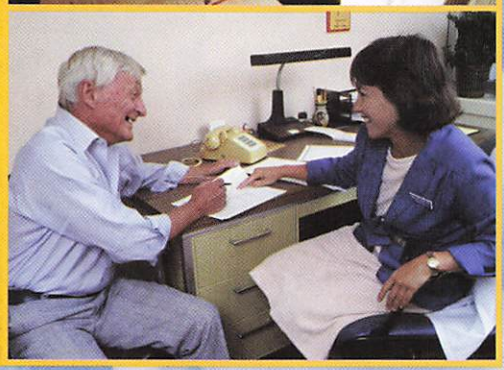
O BEGIN?

fields start with the associate's degree.

NO. OF NEW EMPLOYEES NEEDED IN 2005	
212,000	
428,000	
445,000	
177,000	
64,000	
15,000	
13,000	
81,000	
126,000	
125,000	
39,000	
26,000	
121,000	
64,000	
45,000	







Here is a list, provided by the American Association of Community Colleges, of today's 15 fastest growing occupations.

The chart shows the projected number of needed employees for each category by the year 2005 and how many of those are an increase over 1994. The increase range from a healthy 53% to an amazing 119% in the span of a mere decade! No wonder the demand for qualified employees is greater than the applicant pool.

Community colleges and technical institutes provide the bridge between high school and meaningful employment. **In the words of Bill Gates, CEO of Microsoft: "America is leading the way in high technology and in the next seven years, it's estimated that 80 percent of new jobs in this country will be high tech. Community colleges have an important role to play in making certain we have skilled workers ready to help businesses take advantage of all the opportunities in the Digital Age."**

Jim Adams, CEO of Texas Instruments, agrees: "The community college system is an absolutely imperative part of the fabric of education in this country. It's the thing that will help us be competitive leaders in the world, and corporations like mine have to retain a competitive leadership throughout the US, throughout the world."

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

You're starting into a whole new millenium of opportunities. Which direction should you go with your life?

The decisions you make now about college will put you on course for the rest of your life. On course to the challenging careers of the 21st Century. Research shows that individuals who earn a college degree and enter the career field they choose are happier, more stable and satisfied in life than those who don't prepare and get trapped in a shifting job market.

But once you've made the choice to get a college education, other questions remain. Which college is best for you? Are you ready for the big leap to a large, expensive university, or should make a two-year college or institute your first step? Will the courses you take at your local community college or technical institute count towards your four-year degree? Are colleges as expensive as you've heard? If so, how will you pay for your education?

For young adults thinking about college, we've created this special selection of articles to help you sort through the options. Think of it as a roadmap to get you started on your journey.

Bon voyage.

STARTING

START

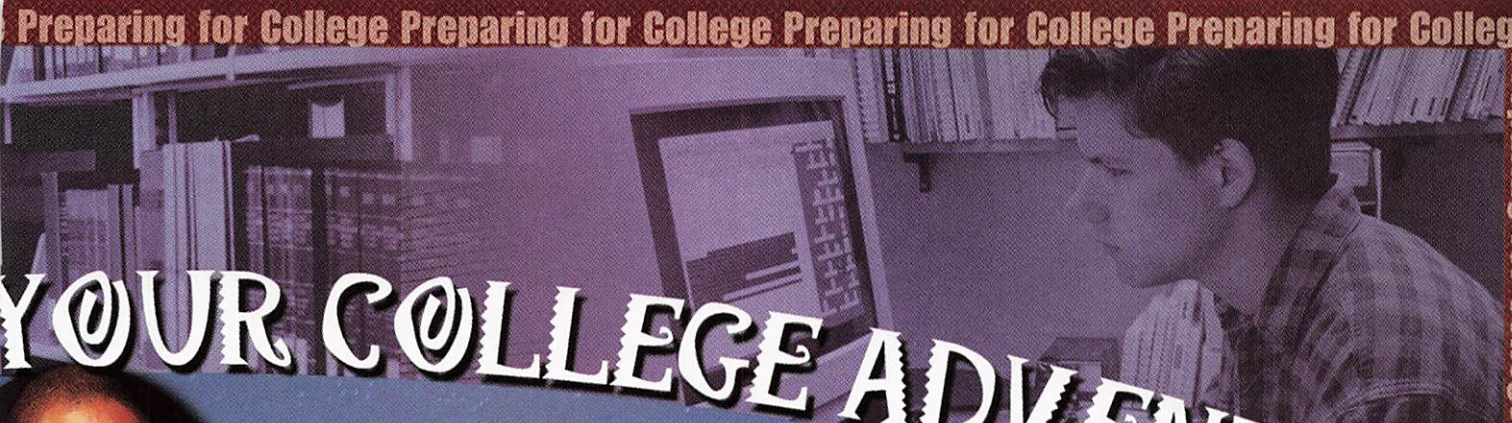
Roughly half of all students in higher education attend two-year community colleges and technical institutes. So do more than 70 percent of all college freshmen. Those intriguing statistics underscore a remarkable American success story: the emergence of two-year colleges and institutes as the best first-step toward a four-year degree.

At a community college or technical institute, you can knock out just about all the "core courses" that you would take in your first two years at a university. And you can do it at about half the price, in smaller classes, with attentive instructors.

TWO-YEAR COLLEGES AND INSTITUTES ARE A LOGICAL FIRST-STEP IN A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE

Kierre Daniels, for example, got his start by earning an associate's degree in journalism at Southwestern College, a community college in Chula Vista, CA. He then transferred cross-country to Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY, where he's a senior majoring in technical communications.

"Getting the basics out of the way allowed me to get up to speed with col-



YOUR COLLEGE ADVENTURE

Kierre Daniels

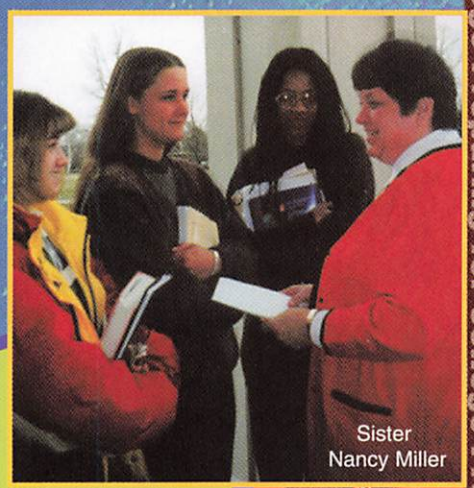
lege work and the college atmosphere," Kierre said. "When I entered Clarkson, I was ready. The time I spent at a community college allowed me to mature as a person and to discipline myself to truly enjoy my college experience."

At Southwestern, Kierre took many core classes required for transfer—classes like algebra, English composition, biology, philosophy and health. He also took classes required for his major, so by the time he was a junior at Clarkson, he had a bunch of college credits under his belt—and he didn't break the bank to do it.

"By doing my first two years at Southwestern, I saved an incredible amount of money," he said. "I worked with a counselor to make sure I was on track. My professors knew me by name, and I was able to go to them anytime I needed help."

Many two-year and four-year colleges offer special transfer arrangements, sometimes called "articulation agreements," that ensure a smooth transfer from one school to another. At a community college or technical institute with such an agreement, you would be able to enroll in freshman and sophomore level classes that are pre-approved by a "partner" university.

Sister Nancy Miller, coordinator of academic advising at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, IN, said articulation agreements were beneficial because they provide students with a link between institutions—from the very start. Sister Nancy helps students plan courses that transfer from Holy Cross to Notre Dame University.



Sister Nancy Miller

"Articulation agreements are wonderful and are generally treated as though the student had taken the first two years at the transfer institution," she said.

College-Ticket to a Great Future

You may even transfer to a four-year college without leaving your community college campus. Tim Hartman, for instance, is working on a bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL. But he is doing it at Parkland College in Champaign, IL, where he earned his associate's in applied science!

In this arrangement, Eastern professors teach Eastern classes on the Parkland campus in Champaign. This works great for Tim. He doesn't have to drive 50 miles to go to class; he takes his courses at night and works during the day to finance his education; and with just 20 or so students in each class, he gets a university education in the intimate surroundings of a community college!

PLANNING YOUR COLLEGE CONNECTION

"There would be no way I could go to a major university and work 50 hours a week," said Tim, who is general manager of a local restaurant. He plans to earn his bachelor's degree in business management.

If you want to begin at a two-year college and transfer later to a four-year college, the **best approach is to begin with the end in mind**. In other words, start planning your transfer as soon as you enroll at a community college or technical institute. Counselors and academic advisors can help you chart a course.

Kathy Urban, counselor at Gloucester County College in Sewell, NJ, helps students make decisions based on their major, future goals and transfer institution.

"If you are coming to the community college and planning to transfer, we encourage you to begin your planning as soon as you get here," Urban said. "For the student who is prepared, transferring to a university is a seamless transfer."

STEP 1: DECIDE ON A MAJOR. Courses required for transfer may vary according to academic major. So if you know your major ahead of time, you can start checking off classes that fit into your degree plan.

STEP 2: DECIDE WHERE YOU WANT TO TRANSFER. Different universities have different personalities, so the more you know about your prospective institution, the smoother your transfer will be. At community colleges and technical institutes, counselors can help you understand a university's requirements and choose courses that will transfer.

STEP 3: REGISTER! Once you've decided on a major and a college, you're ready to start charting your course. Work with a counselor at your community college or technical institute to hammer out a degree plan—so you know on "day one" exactly what courses to take, where you're headed, and how you'll get there.

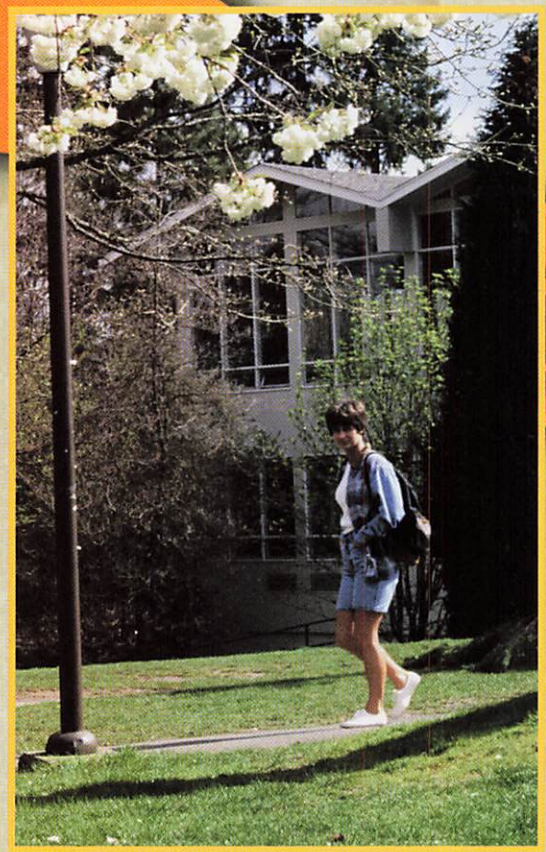
Articulation Agreement

DOES YOUR TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION NEED AN "ARTICULATION AGREEMENT"?

You don't have to participate in an articulation agreement to make a successful transfer. As long as you research the requirements and do your planning ahead of time, you can transfer to just about any college in the country.

"Most of our students are able to transfer with or without an articulation agreement," Urban said.

Many colleges and universities have transfer information posted on the World Wide Web.



Smaller Clas... avoid the cr...

So let's break this down to basics. By knocking out the basics at a community college or technical institute, **you get smaller classes, great professors, an excellent, affordable education, and easy transfer to a university. Basically, it's a package that's hard to beat.**

FINANCING THE JOURNEY

By Cason Lane

Two-year colleges and institutes are the best value in higher education today.

Maybe you've heard that college is too expensive. You heard wrong. At community colleges and technical institutes, you can get the same quality education—for a fraction of the cost.

The Scholastic Registry, a college admissions resource for students, estimates that the cost of tuition and fees is about $1,500 a year at a public community college or technical institute, compared to about $3,000 a year at a public university.

At a private community college or technical institute, cost of tuition and fees is about $6,900 a year, compared to an average $12,000 a year at a private university.

So, just by starting out at a community college or technical institute, you can save thousands of dollars on your higher education. But that doesn't mean you can't slash the price tag even more. Whether you are training for a technical job or transferring to a four-year university, you may quality for assistance.

To see what local and state financial aid is available in your area, talk to a counselor at your high school, community college or technical institute, or transfer institution. Or, contact your state's higher education agency. Also ask about scholarships (usually based on your academic performance) from prospective institutions and special organizations. Sometimes, you can pile up several small amounts of money to build a nice-sized financial package.

The federal government offers two types of financial aid—grants (which are like free money) and loans (which you must pay back).

To search for scholarships, try these sites:

- www.finaid.org
- www.fastweb.com
- www.winscholarships.com
- www.studentpower.com
- www.collegeboard.com

Preparing for College Preparing for College Preparing for College

Check These College Websites for Course Ideas and More Information.

Alabama Southern Community College . . . . . www.ascc.edu
Alvin Community College . . . . . .www.alvin.cc.tx.us
Arkansas State University Mountain Home . . . . . www.asumh.edu
Black Hawk College . . . . . www.bhc.edu
Brazosport College . . . . . www.brazosport.cc.tx.us
Broome Community College . . . . . .www.sunybroome.edu
Carl Sandburg College . . . . . www.csc.cc.il.us
Carroll Community College . . . . . www.carroll.cc.md.us
Cecil Community College . . . . . www.cecil.cc.md.us
Central Carolina Community College . . . . . www.ccarolina.cc.nc.us
Chatfield College . . . . . .www.chatfield.edu
Cleveland Community College . . . . . .www.cleveland.cc.nc.us
College of The Mainland. . . . . .www.mainland.cc.tx.us
Columbus State Community College . . . . . www.cscc.edu
Community Colleges of Baltimore County . . . . . .www.ccbc.md.us
Community-Technical Colleges of Connecticut . . . . . .www.commnet.edu
Dawson Community College . . . . . .www.dawson.cc.mt.us
Daytona Beach Community College . . . . . www.dbcc.cc.fl.us
Delaware Technical & Community Colleges . . . . . .www.dtcc.edu
East Mississippi Community College. . . . . www.emcc.cc.ms.us
Eastern Wyoming College . . . . . .www.ewcweb.ewc.wnecn.edu
Galveston College . . . . . .www.gc.edu
Gaston College . . . . . .www.gaston.cc.nc.us
Gavilan College . . . . . .www.gavilan.cc.ca.us
Georgia Department of Technical & Adult Education . . . . . www.dtae.org
Grays Harbor College . . . . . .www.ghc.liberty.ctc.edu
Grayson County College . . . . . www.grayson.edu
Harford Community College . . . . . .www.harford.cc.md.us
Highline Community College . . . . . www.highline.ctc.edu
Houston Community College System . . . . . www.hccs.cc.tx.us
Howard College . . . . . www.hc.cc.tx.us
Indian River Community College . . . . . .www.ircc.cc.fl.us
Itawamba Community College . . . . . .www.icc.cc.ms.us
Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington . . . . . www.ivy.tec.in.us/Bloomington
Ivy Tech State College-South Bend . . . . . www.ivy.tec.in.us
Kiswaukee Community College . . . . . .www.kish.cc.il.us
Lima Technical College . . . . . .www.ltc.tec.oh.us
Macomb Community College . . . . . www.macomb.cc.mi.us
Mississippi County Community College . . . . . www.mccc.cc.ar.us
Mississippi Delta Community College . . . . . .www.mdcc.cc.ms.us
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. . . . . .www.mgccc.cc.ms.us
Navarro College . . . . . www.nav.cc.tx.us
New Mexico State University at Carlsbad . . . . . .www.cavern.nmsu.edu
North Central State College . . . . . www.ncstate.tec.oh.us
North Shore Community College . . . . . www.nscc.cc.ma.us
Northeast State Technical Community College . . . . . .www.nstcc.cc.tn.us
Northeast Texas Community College . . . . . .www.ntcc.cc.tx.us
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College . . . . . .www.nwtc.tec.wi.us
Northern Essex Community College . . . . . www.necc.mass.edu
Olympic College . . . . . www.oc.ctc.edu
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College . . . . . .www.octech.org
Pasco-Hernando Community College . . . . . www.pasco-hernandocc.com
Pensacola Junior College . . . . . .www.pjc.cc.fl.us
Pima Community College . . . . . www.pima.edu
Polk Community College . . . . . .www.polk.cc.fl.us
Rend Lake College . . . . . .www.rlc.cc.il.us
San Jacinto College . . . . . .www.sjcd.cc.tx.us
Seward County Community College . . . . . .www.sccc.cc.ks.us
South Florida Community College . . . . . www.sfcc.cc.fl.us
Southeast Community College . ww.uky.edu/communitycolleges/sou
Spartanburg Technical College . . . . . .www.spt.sc.us
St. Petersburg Junior College . . . . . www.spjc.cc.fl.us
Temple College . . . . . .www.templejc.edu
Tri-County Technical College . . . . . www.tricounty.tec.sc.us
University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande . .www.urgrgcc.edu
Western Nebraska Community College . www.wncc.net

Let's Review

Two-year colleges and institutes are *affordable*, and provide an array of financial aid if you still need help.

They let you *get the basics out of the way* before transferring to a four-year college by completing the first two years in small classes taught by outstanding instructors.

And as long as you think ahead, consult with a counselor and make a degree plan, virtually every course you take at a two-year college will *transfer* smoothly into your program of study at a four-year college.

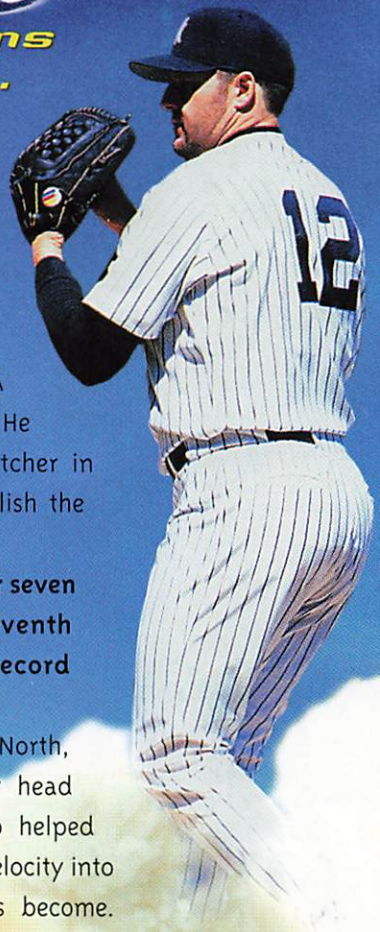
If your dreams take you into a technical career, two-year colleges and institutes have literally *hundreds of options* to choose from. Read through the catalog of your local college or institute and see which programs are available in your community.

Low cost, high quality and virtually unlimited opportunity put a college education within reach of most every student serious about the future.

That education is your ticket to tomorrow—and oh what a future it can be!

Rocket Roger

Before the Big Leagues, Roger Clemens threw strikes for San Jacinto College.



Before he was a Yankee, before he was a Bluejay, before he was a Red Sox or a University of Texas Longhorn, Roger Clemens was a Gator.

San Jacinto College North, Roger's alma mater community college just outside Houston, TX, is the only community or junior college in the nation to claim a Cy Young Award winner among its former players.

As a Gator in 1981, Roger fanned 82 hitters in 85 2/3 innings and posted a 9-2 record. His baseball career was launched with the thrust of a, well, rocket.

Roger is one of the rarest baseball exceptions-he seems to get better with age. **In 1998, he claimed his fifth Cy Young Award, a major league record.** American League voters representing the Baseball Writers' Association of American made him the league's top pitcher in a unanimous decision. Denny McLain (1968) and Rod Guidry (1978) were the only previous unanimous choices in the American League.

The thirty six -year-old Houstonian also claimed the league's pitching triple crown for a second straight season. Roger tied for the AL lead in wins at 20-6 and was tops in ERA (2.65) and strikeouts (271). He became only the fourth pitcher in baseball history to accomplish the feat in consecutive seasons.

Roger has been an All Star seven times, and is just the eleventh pitcher in history to record 3,000 career strikeouts.

At San Jacinto College North, Roger tutored under Gator head coach Wayne Graham, who helped Roger develop his pitching velocity into the legendary rocket it has become. Other current major league pitchers from San Jacinto College North include Andy Pettitte, also of the New York Yankees, and Jeff McCurry of the Colorado Rockies. M

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